Foreign
Broadcast
Information
Service
50
ANNIVERSARY
1941 - 1991

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-164
Friday
23 August 1991

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-164 CONTENTS *23 August 1991*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

Cambodian Factions Meet in Thailand

Preliminary Talks Open 22 Aug in Bangkok *[AFP]* 1
SRV Official Expects 'Significant Progress' *[AFP]* 1
PRC, SRV Reach 'Secret' Agreement on UN *[KYODO]* 1

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Further on Reaction to Soviet Developments 3
  G-7 Meeting Urged *[KYODO]* 3
  Kaifu Wants Contact 'Soon' *[KYODO]* 3
  Kaifu: Policy Remains Unchanged *[KYODO]* 3
  Nakayama Interviewed on Policy *[Tokyo TV]* 4
  Kaifu Encourages Market Economy *[KYODO]* 4
  Kaifu, Nakayama Discuss Aid *[Tokyo TV]* 5
  Hashimoto Reiterates Aid Stance *[KYODO]* 5
  Nakao 'Cautious' About More Aid *[KYODO]* 6
  Tokyo To Give More Food Aid *[KYODO]* 6
  SDP Messages Sent *[KYODO]* 6
Rengo Delegation To Visit Soviet Union in Oct *[KYODO]* 6
No Accord Reached at Joint Talks With DPRK *[KYODO]* 7
Minister Hopes To Meet Dunkel on Farm Trade *[KYODO]* 7
EC Agreeable to Tariffs in Place of Barriers *[KYODO]* 7
Kaifu Says Rice Tariff Not To Lift Ban *[KYODO]* 7
Ministry Moves To Reform Securities Companies *[KYODO]* 8
MOF Aware of Securities Firms' Compensations *[KYODO]* 8
Securities Dealers Unveil Reform Program *[KYODO]* 8
Official Says Rate Cut Hinges on Economics *[KYODO]* 8
Chemical Firm To Create Joint Korea Chip Firm *[KYODO]* 9
Asahi Chemical Industry Going Global *[KYODO]* 9
Asahi Optical To Shift Production to Taiwan *[KYODO]* 9
Mitsumi To Transfer Manufacturing Base to PRC *[KYODO]* 9
TSD Sets Up Joint Venture Firm in China *[KYODO]* 9
Sumito, USSR To Set Up Joint Coal Firm *[KYODO]* 10

North Korea

Gorbachev's Decree Abolishing SCSE Reported *[Pyongyang Radio]* 10
  Appointment of Acting Ministers *[Pyongyang Radio]* 10
23 Aug High-Level Talks End in Agreement *[KCNA]* 10
SKNDF Issues White Paper on Nuclear Issue *[KCNA]* 10
'Reckless' Provocations in DMZ Denounced *[Pyongyang Radio]* 10
'Espionage' Act, Other 'Provocations' Denounced *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
Combat Readiness of ROK Armed Forces Viewed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 12
South's Economy Due to 'Predatory' U.S. Policy *[KCNA]* 12
University Students Hold 'Indignation Meeting' *[KCNA]* 13
Daily Views U.S., South Troop Reduction Plan *[KCNA]* 13
U.S. 'Aggressive Korea Policy' Discussed *[KCNA]* 14

Soviet Trade Union Delegates Interviewed 21 Aug *[KCNA]* 14
Soviets Lay Wreaths at Taesongsan, Other Places *[Pyongyang Radio]* 15
Foreign Minister Meets With Soviet Ambassador *[KCNA]* 15
WPK Delegates Meets Bangladesh Party Leader *[KCNA]* 15
Denuclearization Meeting Keynote Address Noted *[KCNA]* 16
Delegate Addresses Denuclearization Meeting *[KCNA]* 16
Asian Committee for Korea's Reunification Formed *[KCNA]* 17
Australian Socialist Head, Kim Chae-pong Meet *[KCNA]* 18
Nepal Ceremony Starts Korean 'Solidarity March' *[KCNA]* 18
Kim Il-song Receives Nuclear Conference Letter *[KCNA]* 18
Kim Chong-il Receives Denuclearization Letter *[KCNA]* 19
Cuban Foreign Ministry Supports Denuclearization *[KCNA]* 19
Kim Il-song Sends Messages to Heads of State *[KCNA]* 19
International Journalists Meet in Pyongyang *[KCNA]* 20
Regional Chuche Institute Publishes Bulletin *[KCNA]* 20
Kim Il-song Work on Reunification Discussed *[KCNA]* 20
'Senior Middle Schools No. 1' Produce Graduates *[KCNA]* 21
Film Week Opens To Mark Youth Day 22 Aug *[KCNA]* 21
North Hamgyong Province Restores Cultural Relics *[KCNA]* 21
KCNA Reviews 23 Aug Pyongyang Press 22

South Korea

N-S Talks Reportedly Postponed Until 22 Oct *[Seoul Radio]* 23
    More on High-Level Talks *[YONHAP]* 23
* Reunification Alliance Holds Rally in Japan *[PUKHAN Jun]* 23
Envoy To Visit Tokyo; Discuss DPRK, USSR *[YONHAP]* 28
Russian Republic Hopes for Closer Ties *[YONHAP]* 28
Reaction to Soviet Situation Criticized *[THE KOREA TIMES 23 Aug]* 28
Firms To Accelerate Projects in Siberia *[YONHAP]* 29
Shipment of Consumer Goods to USSR Viewed *[YONHAP]* 29
Maritime Transport Accord With Soviets 'Likely' *[YONHAP]* 29
Immigration Limits Shore Time for Soviet Sailors *[THE KOREA TIMES 23 Aug]* 29
Soviet Economic Delegation Due for Talks 30 Aug *[YONHAP]* 29
Plans Cancelled for Singapore, Thailand Visit *[YONHAP]* 30
Opposition Party Replaces Key Posts *[YONHAP]* 30
Economic News Analysis on Potential for Inflation *[YONHAP]* 30
Korean Telecom, DACOM Sign on for Cable *[YONHAP]* 31

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister on Bush Rejection of GSP Petition *[BERNAMA]* 32
Sabah's Pairin Hopes for Better Ties *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 19 Aug]* 32
Defense Minister on Cooperation With Bangladesh *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 32
Minister Wants Revival of Police Posts *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 19 Aug]* 32

Singapore

Party Secures Majority; 41 Seats Uncontested *[THE STRAITS TIMES 22 Aug]* 33
Deputy Premier Opens ASEAN Meeting *[BERNAMA]* 34

Cambodia

Hor Namhong Interviewed on Settlement Prospects *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 35
Hun Sen Asks Sihanouk To Appeal for Aid *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
Hor Namhong Meets Flood Disaster Organizations *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 36
    Further on Floods *[SPK]* 37

UN Team Arrives, Meets Defense Officials *[SPK]* 37
SPK Reports Arrival of U.S. Senator Kerry 37
Communique Issued on Opposition Attacks *[SPK]* 37
Vietnam's Vo Van Kiet Sends Thanks to Hun Sen *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 38
Leaders Greet Newly Elected Lao Counterparts *[SPK]* 38
Son Sann Arrives in Bangkok, Meets Khieu Samphan *[Radio VOK]* 38
Sihanouk: U.S. Opposes Accepting UN Amendments *[AFP]* 38

Indonesia

Officials React to Soviet President's Return 39
    Suharto Welcomes Return *[Jakarta Radio]* 39
    Alatas on Developments *[Jakarta Radio]* 39
    Further on Alatas Remarks *[ANTARA]* 39
    Dailies Welcome Gorbachev's Return *[Jakarta Radio]* 40
Official, PRC Minister Discuss Cooperation *[ANTARA]* 40
Suharto Meets ROK National Assembly Speaker *[Jakarta Radio]* 40
Paper Examines Discontent in Aceh Province *[Bangkok THE NATION 22 Aug]* 41

Laos

Law on Election of National Assembly *[Vientiane Radio]* 42
Teachers in Toumlan Not Paid on Time *[Vientiane Radio]* 46
Leaders Receive Greetings From PRC Leaders *[KPL]* 46
Ministry Delegation Concludes SRV Visit *[Vientiane Radio]* 46
National Mekong Committees Hold 15th Conference *[KPL]* 46
Foreign Minister Meets Cambodian, SRV Groups *[KPL]* 47

Philippines

Nullification of Mutual Defense Treaty Proposed *[Quezon City Radio]* 47
Military Said To Support Aquino on Bases Pact *[Manila Radio]* 47
U.S. Bases Retention Said Vital for Security *[Manila Radio]* 47
    Manglapus Stresses Importance *[Quezon City Radio]* 47
Two Senators Comment on Economic Aid Package *[Manila Radio]* 48
Aquino: Base Treaty To Be Submitted to Senate *[Manila Radio]* 48
Aquino 'Still Hoping' for Treaty Ratification *[AFP]* 48
Senator: Ratification Chances Getting Dimmer *[Quezon City Radio]* 49
Muslim Groups' Leaders Support Bases Pact *[MANILA BULLETIN 23 Aug]* 49
Japanese Envoy Views Treaty Rejection Effects *[Quezon City Radio]* 49
Development Plans for Clark, Wallace Cited *[BUSINESS WORLD 23 Aug]* 49
PRC Said Not Opposed to Taiwan Trade Ties *[Manila Radio]* 50
Aquino, Party May Endorse Different Candidates *[AFP]* 50
Enrile Comments on Possible Aquino Endorsements *[Manila Radio]* 50
National Oil Company Chairman Diokno Resigns *[Manila Radio]* 51
Intelligence Chief: No 1992 Communist Candidates *[Quezon City Radio]* 51
Three 'Top' NPA Officials Arrested in Bulucan *[DIYARYO FILIPINO 23 Aug]* 51
'High-Ranking' NPA Propagandist Said Arrested *[Quezon City Radio]* 52

Thailand

USSR Coup Compared to Thailand's NPKC *[THE NATION 23 Aug]* 52
Agreement Reached With SRV on Gas Venture *[BANGKOK POST 23 Aug]* 53
Burmese Dissidents Protest Rangoon Monks' Plans *[BANGKOK POST 23 Aug]* 53
Paper Views Problems in Relations With Burma *[BANGKOK POST 23 Aug]* 54
European Team Looks Into EC Projects Funding *[THE NATION 23 Aug]* 54
Draft Constitution May Need More Consideration *[BANGKOK POST 23 Aug]* 56
Governor Denies Airport Authority Corruption *[BANGKOK POST 22 Aug]* 57

Vietnam

Thai Military Delegation Visits *[Hanoi TV]* 57
Canadian Embassy Opens in Hanoi 22 Aug *[VNA]* 57
Several Leaders Greet Nguyen Manh Cam *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Minister Receives Malaysian Finance Minister *[VNA]* 58
Le Quang Dao Greets Departing Australian Envoy *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Leaders Greet Afghanistan's National Day *[Hanoi International]* 58
Vo Van Kiet Receives Congratulatory Messages *[VNA]* 58
Boundary Reorganization Procedures Taken by Hanoi *[Hanoi Radio]* 58
Do Muoi Addresses Trade Union Conference *[VNA]* 59
Seminar on Agricultural Development Policy Held *[VNA]* 59
Over 6,000 Families Give Up Nomadic Life *[Hanoi Radio]* 59

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Hawke Says Yeltsin To Visit Australia in 1992 *[AFP]* 60
Hawke Says Baltic States Recognition Inevitable *[AFP]* 60

Papua New Guinea

Government Awaits Peace Talk Confirmation *[Melbourne International]* 60

Cambodian Factions Meet in Thailand

Preliminary Talks Open 22 Aug in Bangkok

BK2208053891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0530 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Excerpts] Bangkok, Aug 22 (AFP)—Cambodia's warring factions held a meeting here on Thursday ahead of peace talks scheduled for next week in the Thai seaside resort of Phatthaya.

Senior officials of the Phnom Penh government and the Khmer Rouge-dominated guerrilla coalition went into talks aimed at finalizing arrangements for the August 26-28 meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC), an interim governing body formed with representatives of all factions.

The officials belonging to the six-member SNC Secretariat did not talk to reporters as they began their meeting at the former Cambodian Embassy in the Thai capital. [passage omitted]

Next week's discussions are to focus on a peace plan drafted by United Nations Security Council permanent members—Britain, China, France, the United States and the Soviet Union.

The Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge and their allies have demanded a full implementation of the UN blueprint. Phnom Penh has objected to clauses on a dismantling of its armed forces and placing key ministries under UN control.

The SNC is headed by former Cambodian monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who arrived here on Wednesday.

The 68-year-old prince said he would attempt to engineer mutual concessions by the Khmer Rouge and the Phnom Penh, which he described as a "very difficult task."

SRV Official Expects 'Significant Progress'

BK2308114291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1116 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 23 (AFP)—The warring Cambodian factions could make "significant progress" on military issues and the role of the United Nations in the country during their meeting next week, a top Vietnamese official said Friday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien also said upon arrival here that while in Thailand he would meet his Chinese counterpart, Xu Dunxin, and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Solomon.

"If every side is reasonable there could be significant progress on all the remaining problems and perhaps even agreement on some of them," said Nien, adding that he would attend the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC) meeting in the Thai beach resort of Phatthaya as an observer.

Nien said the SNC—which groups representatives of the Phnom Penh government and the three armed groups opposing it—had three major issues to resolve: military arrangements, the role of the United Nations in a peace settlement and the genocidal rule of the the Khmer Rouge between 1975 and 1979.

The SNC, headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, is to assume sovereignty for Cambodia during the transition period.

The permanent members of the United Nations Security Council proposed last year a Cambodian peace plan based on the disarmament of the warring factions and an important role for the United Nations in running the country during a transition period leading to national elections.

But the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government—unlike its adversaries—has refused to disarm its troops during the transition period or to accept temporary U.N. control of the country.

However, said Nien, "I think that Phnom Penh will prove to be very flexible on the genocide questions, and that there could be an SNC agreement on that issue."

Phnom Penh has consistently demanded that the U.N. peace plan contain measures to prevent a return to power of the Khmer Rouge and to ensure its principal leaders are put to trial for killing hundreds of thousands of civilians before the Vietnamese invaded in 1978.

Also on the agenda for the SNC's 12 members will be a date for a resumption of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia. Nien said he hoped it would take place "before the end of the year."

Regarding Solomon's statement Thursday that the United States would oppose any U.N. involvement in Cambodia before an all- embracing political and military settlement was reached, Nien said only that the position "was not new" and that every party "would have to make concessions."

Nien said he had no meeting planned with Prince Sihanouk, but that he would meet him if the prince requested it.

Diplomatic sources said Nien's talks with Xu would take place Saturday at the Chinese Embassy here.

PRC, SRV Reach 'Secret' Agreement on UN

OW2308091191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0858 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Bangkok, Aug. 23 KYODO—China and Vietnam have concluded a secret agreement on the Cambodian issue aimed at minimizing the United Nations' planned role in peacekeeping operations and supervising elections, Western diplomatic sources in Hanoi said Friday.

The Communist Parties of China and Vietnam reached a four-point accord when a Vietnamese Communist Party delegation led by Politburo member Le Due Anh visited China from late July to early August, sources close to the Vietnamese party have also confirmed.

They agreed that the status quo would be maintained for military and administrative organizations in Cambodia, and the U.N. forces would not be a peacekeeping force but a small monitoring group.

The secret agreement also calls for the participation of the Khmer Rouge in elections, excluding its leaders such as Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, and the return of Supreme National Council Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk to Phnom Penh.

The sources close to the Vietnamese party said China and Vietnam have agreed that Vietnam will accept accords on military organizations between China and the warring Cambodian factions so that the influence of the U.N. peace plan would be minimized.

The peace plan drafted by the U.N. Security Council's five permanent members last year calls for an extensive U.N. administrative and peacekeeping role in Cambodia during a post- ceasefire period, before elections. China is one of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

The Supreme National Council (SNC), Cambodia's transitional ruling body, will hold a three-day meeting in August in Phatthaya, Thailand, to discuss the U.N. peace plan.

Japan

Further on Reaction to Soviet Developments

G-7 Meeting Urged

OW2308005091 Tokyo KYODO in English 2312 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Washington, Aug. 22 KYODO—Foreign ministers from the Group of Seven (G-7) economic powers may meet in New York next month to discuss a concerted aid policy to the Soviet Union, a Japanese diplomatic source said Thursday.

The Japanese Government has called on its G-7 partners to hold high-level consultations on the aftermath of the failed coup in Moscow.

The source said "there is a chance" that the foreign ministers from the G-7 countries—Japan, the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, and Italy—will meet in New York during the United Nations General Assembly session.

If a G-7 foreign minister meeting does not materialize, the personal representatives of the seven G-7 leaders, known as "Sherpas", will probably get together to thrash out a common approach on economic aid to Moscow, the source said.

He said the political turmoil that accompanied the abortive coup in Moscow has not changed the G-7 policy on economic aid to the Soviet Union as laid out during their summit meeting in London last month.

The Japanese Government wants a high-level G-7 forum to take place so that Tokyo would not be excluded from consultations in the West on how to deal with Moscow in the wake of the failed Kremlin coup.

Tokyo has dispatched a senior diplomat, Deputy Foreign Minister Koji Watanabe, on a round to Western European capitals and Washington to press for a high-level G-7 meeting.

Watanabe is expected in Washington over the weekend for a meeting with Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger before returning to Tokyo, a State Department source said.

The leaders of the G-7 countries have been busy calling each other on the telephone to discuss the Soviet crisis.

The series of telephone contacts—twice between Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and U.S. President Geroge Bush alone—prompted one source at the U.S. State Department to observe that there has already been a G-7 summit although they did not meet in the same room.

Kaifu Wants Contact 'Soon'

OW2308024291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0229 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Friday he hopes to reestablish high-level contacts with the Soviet Union as soon as reinstated Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev decides on a new leadership lineup.

"We must hold high-level discussions," Kaifu told reporters.

"At present the Diet is in session and the situation there is (in flux), but I would like to (hold talks) as soon as possible," he said.

Japanese ministers need permission from the Diet (parliament) if they wish to leave the country while the top lawmaking body is in session.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama at a separate news conference said that Japan may dispatch a special envoy to the Soviet Union once Gorbachev reorganizes his administration.

After his return to office Thursday, Gorbachev has been busy making appointments to replace eight associates who led Monday's failed coup. He is also replacing supporters of the coupmakers.

Kaifu: Policy Remains Unchanged

OW2308045591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0433 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told the Diet on Friday that Japan's policy of helping the Soviet Union move toward a market economy remains unchanged despite the recent political turmoil there.

Kaifu said Japan will continue to pursue the policy agreed on at the London summit in July of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations.

The prime minister made the remarks at a session of the House of Councillors budget committee in response to questions by Wataru Kubo, a member of the opposition Social Democratic Party.

Kaifu said Japan will stick to its nine-point principle on aid to the Soviet Union, including its support for Moscow's transition toward a market economy, following the failed coup attempt against President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Kaifu defended the summit agreement on restraint on large-scale financial aid to the Soviet Union, which some political analysts believe encouraged the coup attempt after Gorbachev came back from the London summit empty-handed.

"What is important is the steady transition to the market economy and conversion of military facilities for commercial production," Kaifu said.

Japan will provide technological support for the Soviet Union with the aim of attaining a balanced expansion of bilateral relations, he said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told the same session that the government is focusing attention on whether the proposed Union treaty between the Kremlin and Soviet republics will be modified following the unsuccessful coup.

Nakayama said the Foreign Ministry will study new approaches toward the Soviet Union after examining a report presented by Deputy Foreign Minister Koji Watanabe, now on the tour of Britain and other major countries for consultations on policy coordination following the failed coup.

Watanabe is to report Sunday on the outcome of his talks with European officials, Nakayama said.

Nakayama Interviewed on Policy

OW2308030591 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1250 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Interview with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama by NHK anchorman Tadashi Sonoda; Nakayama speaks from his office at the Foreign Ministry via a live relay to Sonoda in an NHK studio; from the "News 21" program]

[Text] [Sonoda] The United States and European nations reacted swiftly to the incident in the Soviet Union, declaring that they would not recognize the new Soviet leadership since the political turnover violated the Soviet Constitution. On the other hand, there has been criticism that the Japanese Government's reaction was quite passive and ambiguous. What is your comment on this point?

[Nakayama] Since the government clearly questioned the constitutionality of the State of Emergency Committee that took the initiative in the coup, I do not think that the government failed to react appropriately to the situation.

[Sonoda] Regarding Japan's policy for assistance to the Soviet Union, the governmant decided today to unfreeze aid to the nation. But Japan has a reputation, among Western nations, for taking quite a prudent attitude toward economic assistance to the Soviet Union. Under the new circumstances, what is the Japanese Government's stance toward support for Soviet efforts for economic reform?

[Nakayama] The question was discussed among Western nations at the Houston summit last year and at the London summit this year. Four international organizations—the World Bank, the IMF, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the OECD—jointly conducted a survey late last year to probe the actual state of the Soviet economy in preparation for effective economic assistance. They provided a report on the survey's results earlier this year, concluding that direct investments would bear few fruit, no matter how large in scale. Western nations have so far been offering aid to the Soviet Union in line with the advisory report, which stresses that humanitarian aid, food aid, and technological and intellectual assistance would effectively contribute to the promotion of perestroyka.

With respect to our future policy on aid to the Soviet Union, we announced today that we would unfreeze aid in accord with U.S. and EC decisions. As a tangible measure, Japan believes that intellectual assistance is the most effective measure for supporting Soviet efforts for introducing the market economy system. Taking into account the fact that the Soviet economy is currently in chaos in the transition of its economic system, Japan plans to invite about 300 Soviet officials to Japan this year to help with their study of a well-provided free market system. We believe that Japan should work on a steady program of personnel assistance to support Soviet efforts for establishing a liberal market economy system. Moreover, Japan is offering medical aid to Chernobyl victims. On top of this aid policy, the Japanese Government intends to study the possibility of additional measures for effective support for the Soviet Union in consultation with other Group of Seven industrialized nations.

[Sonoda] In connection with Japan's future ties with the Soviet Union, Russian President Yeltsin is very likely to strengthen his influence on the new Soviet leadership. Under such circumstances, what is your stance toward Soviet-related affairs, such as the territorial issue?

[Nakayama] The Japanese Government understands that the settlement of the northern territories issue is an earnest wish of the people. Japan's basic stance on Soviet policy is to promote bilateral friendship and economic cooperation through settlement of the territorial issue and the conclusion of a peace treaty after that. I intend to promote dialogue with both President Gorbachev, who will lead the new Soviet leadership, and President Yeltsin, in accord with this stance. I hope that the new diplomacy of the Soviet Union will place emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region, and that it will contribute to Japanese-Soviet dialogue toward a settlement of the territorial issue.

[Sonoda] Thank you very much for joining us.

Kaifu Encourages Market Economy

OW2308090091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0848 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Friday urged the Soviet Union following a failed coup to step up its efforts to create a market economy in order to qualify for future Japanese financial aid.

"The Soviet Union must transform its economy into a market economy and its self-help efforts are crucial in the process," he told a session of the House of Councillors Budget Committee.

Kaifu said the country must convert its military industries into civilian industries.

Earlier in the day, he told the committee session Japan's policy of helping the Soviet Union move toward a market economy remains unchanged despite the political turmoil there.

He said Japan will continue to pursue the policy agreed at the London summit in July of leaders of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations.

He defended the summit agreement on restraint on large-scale financial aid to the Soviet Union, which some political analysts believe encouraged the coup after Gorbachev came back from London empty-handed.

He hinted at the session the failed coup may bring about a change in Japan's negotiations over sovereignty of four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido to include the Russian Republic.

He said, "from now, Japan will have to negotiate with both (the Russian Republic and the Soviet Union)" in its efforts to reclaim the islands.

Noting the Russian foreign minister always accompanied Gorbachev during six rounds of talks with Kaifu in Tokyo during the Soviet leader's April visit, the prime minister said Japan will have to reconsider where the authority lies in resolving the territorial issue.

Renewing his call for greater democratic progress in Soviet institutions, Kaifu said, "Japan would be annoyed very much if the Soviet Union backpedals from perestroika democratic reforms."

After being returned to power, Gorbachev told Kaifu by telephone Thursday that Moscow would start talks with nine Soviet republics Friday over the Union treaty, believed to be one of the major reasons behind the coup, he said.

The treaty, if implemented, would transfer considerable authority from the federal government to signatory republics. The coup was staged the day before treaty was due to be signed.

"The coup attempt was regarded by many political analysts as an attempt to put a brake on this treaty," Kaifu said, indicating he hopes Moscow would go ahead with the signing.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told the same session the government is focusing attention on whether the treaty will be modified.

Nakayama said the Foreign Ministry will study new [words indistinct]

Watanabe will report Sunday on the outcome of his talks with European and U.S officials, Nakayama said.

Kaifu, Nakayama Discuss Aid

OW2308052091 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Wataru Kubo of the Democratic Social Party of Japan, speaking at the upper house Budget Committee session this morning, asked the government if it is not the time for Japan to provide full-scale economic and financial aid to the Soviet Union.

In reply, Prime Minister Kaifu said:

[Begin recording] Frank views were exchanged on various issues at the bilateral summit and dinner events before and after the London summit. Both sides agreed that what is most important for the Soviet Union is to have an effective system to ensure that aid funds are used in such a way as to contribute to the welfare of the nation and the people.

I think Japan should pursue a policy of expanded equilibrium, and should proceed more positively with technological aid and humanitarian aid to the Soviet Union. [end recording]

Meanwhile, following a cabinet meeting today, Foreign Minister Nakayama also spoke to reporters about the question of summit-member nations aiding the Soviet Union, and said that since there is about to emerge a nation in the Soviet Union seeking freedom and democracy—thinking the same way as the Japanese do, Japan has to take an apppropriate position regarding the question as a summit member nation. He indicated that there is a need to further proceed with the aid to the Soviet Union.

Hashimoto Reiterates Aid Stance

OW2308021591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0153 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto reiterated Friday the ministry's stance that Japan should remain tightfisted on financial assistance to the Soviet Union.

Hashimoto told a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting that conditions in the Soviet economy have not changed as a result of the failed coup against President Mikhail Gorbachev from what they were when an international report said financial aid to the Soviet Union cannot be of much immediate help to the Soviet economy.

Four international economic and financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, compiled the report last December after a request from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial countries.

"It is still uncertain whether Soviet economic conditions will go for the better or for the worse," Hashimoto said.

There are many murky factors concerning Soviet politics, such as the lineup of the new cabinet, Hashimoto suggested.

"We don't have enough material at this moment to say anything about financial aid yet," he said.

The focus of the government's information collecting conducted mainly by the Foreign Ministry should be on taxation rights and foreign debt sharing between the Soviet federal government and the republics, he said.

Hashimoto said Gorbachev told Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu by telephone that he will hold a meeting with representatives of the republics on the issue of whether any revision is necessary on the new Union treaty which was to have been signed Tuesday.

Nakao 'Cautious' About More Aid

OW2308025291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0239 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Minister of International Trade and Industry Eiichi Nakao on Friday expressed a cautious attitude toward Japan's additional aid to the Soviet Union.

"There remain many uncertain things, including the future of perestroyka and the matter of personnel" after the failed coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Nakao told a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting.

"The European Community (EC) is calling for expanded help to the Soviet Union, but I don't think our stance is too cautious," he said.

Nakao said the government will watch how democracy will prevail in the Soviet Union and to what extent reformists led by Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Republic, can obtain a say in the Soviet Government in the upcoming leadership reshuffle, before deciding whether to provide additional aid to Moscow.

Japan has stuck to its policy of not extending financial aid to the Soviet Union pending settlement of a territorial dispute over a group of islands off Hokkaido, northern Japan, seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Tokyo To Give More Food Aid

OW2308090391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Japan will join Western industrial nations in giving additional emergency food aid to the Soviet Union, a top official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Friday.

Japan earlier announced it will provide 100 million dollars in food aid to the Soviet Union.

But the official ruled out any additional financial assistance to the country, at least before the end of the year, which would be in addition to the special aid promised at the recent London summit by the group of seven industrial nations, including Japan.

He noted that the Soviet Union still holds large international debts.

SDP Messages Sent

OW2308102391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1010 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe, in his separate messages to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Friday, expressed the party's welcome of the failure of the Soviet coup and the restoration of order, party officials said.

SDP Vice Chairman Chuji Ito handed the messages to Soviet Charges d'Affaires Yuriy Kouznetsov at the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo, the officials said.

Tanabe said in a message to Gorbachev that Japan's largest opposition party welcomes his return to power, adding that the foiled coup attempt was attributed to the results of perestroika (restructuring), which the Soviet president has proceeded with since 1985.

In his message to Yeltsin, Tanabe praised the leadership by the Russian president, which he said resulted in the failure of the August 19-21 coup by eight senior government, KGB, and military officials.

Tanabe also said the SDP expects Japan and the Soviet Union to step up friendly relations in future.

Rengo Delegation To Visit Soviet Union in Oct

OW2208232191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Japan's largest trade union body Rengo decided Thursday to send a delegation to the Soviet Union in October to meet leaders of the Soviet General Confederation of Trade Unions, Rengo officials said.

The eight-member delegation, headed by Rengo President Akira Yamagishi, is the first to visit the Soviet Union since the Japanese Union Confederation was formed in 1989, the officials said.

The delegation will stay about a week during which it plans to have talks with Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Rengo has expressed support for Soviet miners who went on strike in protest against Monday's coup d'etat by hard-liners in the Soviet Communist Party, military, and security forces which collapsed Wednesday.

The officials said Rengo will support democratization in the Soviet Union following the failure of the coup.

They said Rengo will ask the Japanese Government to step up assistance toward cementing Soviet democracy, which is essential for world peace and stability.

No Accord Reached at Joint Talks With DPRK

OW2208232591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1441 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Japan and North Korea failed to reach an accord on the final day of two-day talks in Beijing on establishing charter flights between the two countries, Japanese Transport Ministry sources said Thursday.

The two sides were unable to bridge differences over the air route to be used for such flights, the sources said.

Japan suggested a route via Khabarovsk in the Soviet Union, a stopover used for air travel to and from Europe for safety reasons, but North Korea rejected flights through a third country.

The next round of talks has not been scheduled.

North Korea had planned to export large quantities of mushrooms to Japan in September and October using cargo planes.

But if future talks do not lead to an accord, Pyongyang will probably have to apply to the Japanese ministry for individual charter flights to Japan, the sources said.

Minister Hopes To Meet Dunkel on Farm Trade

OW2308040191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0251 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Japanese Agriculure Minister Motoji Kondo said Friday he hopes to confer with GATT Secretary General Arthur Dunkel in Geneva next month on the farm issue under the stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

"I hope to explain Japan's position (on the issue) and hear views from the secretary general,"he told reporters after Friday's cabinet session.

Kondo, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, said he hopes his meeting with Dunkel will take place when negotiations on farm trade will resume in mid-September.

The talks, under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), will focus on a report on the issue prepared by Dunkel.

Kondo plans to visit Geneva for talks with Dunkel before or after attending an international forestry meeting to be held in Paris September 17.

The farm trade negotiations are to resume in the week starting September 16.

EC Agreeable to Tariffs in Place of Barriers

OW2308015291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1354 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—An official of the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) said Thursday the European Community (EC) may accept tariffs in place of the existing nontariff trade barriers.

Aart de Zeeuw, former head of the GATT negotiating group on farm issues at the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, made the comment in a news conference. He is in Tokyo to attend an eight-day international meeting on agricultural economics.

De Zeeuw indicated the EC is moving closer to a compromise with the United States, which has been demanding that all nontariff barriers be turned into tariffs.

But de Zeeuw indicated there are still questions to be solved before the EC and the U.S. agree on the issue.

De Zeeuw also expressed reservations about Japan's position that rice should be excluded from tariffs and remain protected by nontariff barriers so the country can maintain "food security."

Kaifu Says Rice Tariff Not To Lift Ban

OW2208145291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1330 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Thursday that putting tariffs on rice imports will not necessarily lead to the lifting of Japan's ban on imported rice.

Speaking before the House of Representatives Budget Committee, he said imposing a stiff tariff is not necessarily synonymous with market liberalization.

By attempting to sever the direct link between a tariff and removal of Japan's rice import ban, Kaifu appeared to be allaying fears among the rice farmers that tariffs would hurt their market share.

His comments seemed to signal his flexibility on the issue of tariffs on Japan's rice imports.

Until now, the government has made clear it opposes a request by the United States to convert all its farm supports and subsidies for rice producers into tariffs.

Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Motoji Kondo, on the other hand, said he opposed to placing tariffs on rice imports, asserting that it would be difficult to block rice imports merely through tariffs.

He said the imposition of insurmountable tariffs on rice imports, however, may prevent rice imports from entering the market.

His comments seemed to suggest that tariffs on rice imports, accompanied by very tough conditions, could perhaps find its way on the negotiating table.

Kondo also said Kaifu's comments do not indicate a change from Japan's position that countries should be self-sufficient in their main foodstuff.

Ministry Moves To Reform Securities Companies

OW2308083291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0816 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official said Friday the ministry will have Japanese securities companies clearly separate their securities underwriting and trading operations as part of its efforts to reform the scandal-tainted securities industry.

Nobuhiko Matsuno, director general of the ministry's Securities Bureau, made the remark in answer to a question by an opposition lawmaker before the House of Councillors Budget Committee.

Matsuno said the recent scandals occurred in part because major brokerages compensated favored clients for trading losses in order to remain their lead managers for securities underwriting.

If securities underwriting and trading operations are made independent of each other, it should help prevent a similar scandal, Matsuno said.

MOF Aware of Securities Firms' Compensations

OW2308122491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1216 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—The Finance Ministry [MOF] has been aware for at least eight years of securities companies' reimbursements to vored clients for trading losses, official documents showed Friday.

The annual reports of the ministry's securities bureau, in all editions from 1984 to 1989, have mentioned the practice in sections concerning official inspections on securities companies in the previous year.

No mention was made of the practice in earlier editions, or in the 1990 edition after the ministry issued a directive banning the practice in December 1989.

The reports proved that the ministry has failed to take any corrective action regarding the practice while it has been aware of it all along.

They contradicted a statement made Thursday by Nobuhiko Matsuno, director general of the bureau, before a Diet committee that official inspections have turned up no cases of large-scale compensation by securities companies to clients for trading losses before the Black Monday stock market crash of October 1987.

Securities company officials admitted that such compensation was a customary practice in the industry.

Securities Dealers Unveil Reform Program

OW2308104391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1035 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—The Japan Securities Dealers Association on Friday adopted a four-point program to reform the scandal-tainted industry, including qualifying examinations for securities sales representatives.

The program, intended to prevent a recurrence of the recent series of scandals, was approved at a special meeting of the board of directors.

In addition to the examinations, the program calls for introduction of a code of conduct for industry personnel, a majority of the association's ethics committee to be experts from outside the industry, and tighter inspections ensuring observance of association rules by member companies.

The code of conduct includes the requirement of securities companies to do their best not to put individual investors at a disadvantage and apply common sense and ethics to their activities.

The qualifying examinations will be given to aspiring sales representatives and business administrators to test their knowledge of inspections and observance of the law.

The association's existing nine-member ethics committee consists of seven association officials and two outside experts.

Under the reform program, the committee will have more than five outside experts to ensure objectivity.

Shogo Watanabe, association president, said in a statement some securities companies had neglected customer needs and lost investor confidence in their pursuit of short-term profits.

He said the association will do its best to reform the [words indistinct] through the program.

Official Says Rate Cut Hinges on Economics

OW2308114791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Nagoya, Aug. 23 KYODO—Yuji Tanahashi, vice minister of international trade and industry [MITI], hinted Friday of a need for another cut in the bank of Japan's official discount rate at an earlier stage if economic growth turns down after September.

Asked about the outlook at a get-together of business leaders in the Chubu (central Japan) region, Tanahashi said, "we are keeping an eye on economic figures for september such as capital investment.

"As the case may be, we might ask the Bank of Japan to take earlier measures in terms of monetary policy."

Concerning a maker-to-maker allocation of Japanese-made vehicles to be exported to the European Community (EC), Tanahashi said at a press conference after the meeting, "in principle, we will decide (the allocation), taking account of each maker's export performance."

The EC has decided to keep vehicle imports from Japan almost at the current level even after its market integration in 1992.

Chemical Firm To Create Joint Korea Chip Firm

OW2208232091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1354 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 22 KYODO—Sumitomo Chemical Co. has signed a contract with a major South Korean chemical firm and C. Itoh and Co. to set up a semiconductor chip cleaning joint venture in South Korea next month, Sumitomo announced Thursday.

The joint firm, named Dong Woo Pure Chemicals Co., will be capitalized at 9 billion won, half of which will be provided by the Seoul-based Oriental Chemical Industries, 40 percent by Sumitomo, and 10 percent by C. Itoh.

The new company, based at Iri, about 100 kilometers south of Seoul, will buy a plant from Oriental Chemical in fall next year for construction of a factory to produce high-purity sulphuric acid and high-purity hydrogen peroxide water.

Sumitomo is aiming to forge closer ties with South Korean semiconductor businesses by producing chip cleaning chemicals in that country, in view of the rapid growth of the industry there in recent months, industry sources said.

Sumitomo officials said they expect the firm to post 3 billion yen in sales in 1993 and 4.1 billion yen in 1995.

Asahi Chemical Industry Going Global

OW2308114891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Osaka, Aug. 23 KYODO—Asahi Chemical Industrial Co. has embarked on a five-year plan to become the world's leading manufacturer of synthetic fiber products, company officials said Friday.

Under the plan, dubbed "run-up to 21," Asahi Chemical will spend 90-100 billion yen over the next five years to strengthen its synthetic fiber businesses in worldwide markets ahead of the 21st century.

The company will also strengthen its manufacturing bases and businesses overseas, including Southeast Asia and Europe, officials said.

Product sales are forecast to rise to 300 billion yen in fiscal 1995 from 210 billion yen in fiscal 1990, they said. They projected pretax profits to rise from 15.5 billion yen in fiscal 1990 to 25 billion yen in fiscal 1995.

Asahi Optical To Shift Production to Taiwan

OW2308015091 Tokyo KYODO in English 2347 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Asahi Optical Co. will switch production of lenses for its auto-focus, single-lens reflex cameras to its Taiwan subsidiary, an industry daily reported Friday.

The NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN said the major optical glass maker will invest about 1 billion yen in the Taiwan unit, AsahI Optical Taiwan, to steamline its production facilities.

The unit will produce 20,000 lenses a month for Asahi Optical's "Z series" cameras from early next year.

The production shift came as the company is putting greater emphasis on production of laser beam printers and other non-camera lenses in Japan, according to the paper.

Mitsumi To Transfer Manufacturing Base to PRC

OW2308044291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0117 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—Mitsumi Electric Co. is transferring its electronic manufacturing units in Taiwan and South Korea to China in search of skilled labor at lower cost, an industry daily reported Friday.

It has already started a production line on the outskirts of Zhuhai in Guangdong Province for variable polythylene capacitors used in radio tuners, the NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN said.

Mitsumi will eventually transfer almost all of its variable polythylene capacitor units to the Chinese factory and enlarge the base to operate with a labor force of about 2,000, the daily said.

The company is expected to gradually cut down its four factories in Taiwan and two manufacturing bases in South Korea for similar labor-intensive products, it said.

TSD Sets Up Joint Venture Firm in China

OW2308094991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0939 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 23 KYODO—TSD Inc., a Japanese computer software developer, said Friday it has set up a joint venture firm with Beijing University in China, company officials said Friday.

TSD and Beijing University will each hold 50 percent interest in the new computer software firm, which is capitalized at 300,000 dollars, officials said.

The company will focus on computer software related to market distribution application software that can be used by Japanese companies, officials said.

TSD expects software sales of the new company to reach 1 billion yen after three years of operation, officials said.

Sumito, USSR To Set Up Joint Coal Firm

OW2308044191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Osaka, Aug. 22 KYODO—Sumitomo Corp. announced Thursday that it will set up a coal sales company in the Siberian city of Nakhodka in September jointly with two Soviet partners, including a coal mining firm.

The Soviet partners will be the Port of Vostochny, which is the largest foreign trade port in the Soviet far east, and Oblkemerovougol, a coal mining firm based in the Kuznetsk coalfield.

The new firm, named Voscoal, will be capitalized at 180,000 rubles (about 100,000 dollars), to be provided equally—one-third each—by the three partners.

Sumitomo officials said they expect to export 100,000 to 500,000 tons of steam coal to Japan in the initial year for supply to electric power, cement, and other plants, and raise exports to Japan to one million tons per year in future.

North Korea

Gorbachev's Decree Abolishing SCSE Reported

SK2308093491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0700 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] According to a TASS report, yesterday, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev released a decree on abolishing the documents of the Soviet State Committee for the State of Emergency [SCSE].

The decree declares that all decisions made by the SCSE or by each member of this committee will be abolished. The decree also declares that all members of the SCSE will be dismissed from their posts.

Appointment of Acting Ministers

SK2308094991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0700 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] According to a TASS report, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev appointed some acting ministers yesterday. Mikhail Moiseyev, chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, has been appointed as acting minister of defense; Leonid Shenarshin, deputy chairman and director of the First General Bureau of the Soviet Committee for State Security, as acting chairman of the Committee for State Security; and Vasiliy Trushin, deputy minister of internal affairs, as acting minister of internal affairs.

23 Aug High-Level Talks End in Agreement

SK2308112391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1109 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Panmunjom August 23 (KCNA)—The fourth contact of the chief liaison officials of both sides for the fourth round of the North-South high-level talks was held in the South side's portion of Panmunjom today.

It was agreed at the contact that the fourth round of the North- South high-level talks will be held in Pyongyang from October 22 to 25 according to the common views of the sides.

SKNDF Issues White Paper on Nuclear Issue

SK2208151691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 22 (KCNA)—Representative of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) to Syria Yi Nam-ho [name as received] called a press conference on August 8 in connection with the publication of a white paper on the nuclear problem in the Korean peninsula, at which he urged the United States to accede to the call for a simultaneous nuclear inspection of the South and the North of Korea.

Yi Nam-ho [name as received] disclosed that the United States has deployed more than 1,700 pieces of nuclear weapons in the land of South Korea, noting the nuclear war exercises including the annual "Team Spirit" joint exercises which have been staged already for 10 odd years show that their preparations for nuclear attack on the North have already been rounded off.

The U.S. claim for nuclear inspection is a premeditated provocative move to mislead the world public opinion and light the train of nuclear war on that pretext, he remarked.

He strongly urged the United States to totally open to the public its nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, accede to the call for a simultaneous nuclear inspection of the South and the North, withdraw the nuclear weapons from South Korea and, at the same time, help realize denuclearization on the Korean peninsula at an early date.

'Reckless' Provocations in DMZ Denounced

SK2308063191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 21 Aug 91

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "An Intentional Act of Provocation Aimed at Straining Tensions"]

[Text] The South Korean puppets' new war provocation maneuvers have become more vicious these days. According to a military source, on 19 August the South Korean puppets moved 120 artillery vehicles of the puppet army from Chongok-ri, Yonchon County in the direction of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL], taking the formation of combat deployment, and, thus, they threatened our side. On the same day, a group of armed soldiers of the puppet army, who surged into the area of Chaktong-ri, Yonchon County, made a commotion there, firing at random more than 80 rounds of a 12.7 mm large-caliber machine guns. On the other hand, formations of armed helicopters of the puppet army waged a frantic air war exercise, making a low-altitude flight from Yonchon to the skies of Munsan along the skies of the MDL area.

Earlier, on 17 August the South Korean puppet army perpetrated the grave military provocation of openly moving an armored vehicle into the Demilitarized Zone south of the MDL marker No. 0467 and deploying it there. On 16 August, 105 mm howitzer artillery units deployed in the area of Chongja-ri, Paju County fired some 100 rounds of artillery shells at the area near the MDL, and the heavy tanks of the puppet army which were deployed in the area of Kumpa-ri, Paju County fired some 50 rounds of artillery shells while moving in the direction of the MDL.

This is a preplanned and intentional provocative act designed to aggravate tension and is, therefore, a vicious challenge to our people and the peace-loving people of the world who unanimously want peace in the country and its peaceful reunification.

As everyone well knows, with the second pannational rally as the occasion, the heat of national reunification among compatriots in the North and the South and overseas has become hotter than ever before. In particular, the second pannational rally failed to be held in Seoul because of the obstructive maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets. So, the rally was inevitably held in Panmunjom, Seoul, and Tokyo separately. In this connection, the people at home and abroad were unable to repress their surging indignation against the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring.

Holding the second pannational rally separately in Seoul, Panmunjom, and Tokyo compatriots in the North and the South and overseas compatriots bitterly condemned the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring as the enemies of the nation and as the enemies of reunification. At the same time, the rally appealed to 70 million of the fellow countrymen to more vigorously rise up in the struggle to make 1995—which will mark the 50th anniversary of national liberation—the year of reunification. In particular, students, youths, and people of South Korea held the pannational rally in Seoul in defiance of the brutal fascist repression of the puppets, bitterly condemning the antireunification maneuvers by splittists at home and abroad, and adopted relevant documents there. Thus, they demonstrated their firm will of reunification to the world.

Embarrassed by this the No Tae-u ring is now attempting not only to extremely aggravate the situation of our country and, thus, to lead it to the brink of war by mobilizing its Armed Forces of aggression and perpetrating military provocations along the MDL and in the area around it, but also to create an atmosphere of terror among the South Korean people and to divert their attention elsewhere. Proceeding from such an attempt, the rascals moved as many as 120 artillery vehicles of the puppet army from Yonchon County to the direction of the MDL and brought heavy tanks and armored vehicles into the MDL and the area around it.

However, such indiscreet military provocations will further reveal their dirty colors as vicious belligerents and as enemies of reunification, and will never frustrate the firm will of all compatriots to achieve peace of the country and its peaceful reunification without fail.

It is totally because of the sincere and patient efforts of our peace-loving people that the No Tae-u ring's reckless military provocations did not expand into a war this time, too. The No Tae-u ring should not miscalculate our patience as an expression of weakness and should clearly know that there is a limitation to our patience. Our people's firm stand is that, of course, they do not want war but they are by no means afraid of it. The No Tae-u ring is now trying to find ways for survival from the indiscreet maneuvers for war, running counter to the aspiration and desire of the nation for peace in the country and its peaceful reunification. However, this is indeed a foolish act.

Those who are fond of fire are to be burned to death in fire flames. The No Tae-u ring should discreetly act, pondering the grave consequences which will be brought about by its reckless maneuvers for war.

'Espionage' Act, Other 'Provocations' Denounced

SK2308020491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are continually committing military provocations near the Military Demarcation Line [MDL].

According to a military source, from 0926 to 1147 on 21 August the U.S. imperialist aggressors let an EH-60 electronic-war helicopter [chonjajon chiksunggi] make round-trip flights from Kanghwa Island to areas in Cholwon, Kangwon Province, South Korea, over the MDL, and committed a full-scale electronic espionage act against our side in the area along the MDL.

In the meantime, the South Korean puppets committed military provocations, which irritate [chaguk] us, near the DMZ and near the MDL.

At around 1020 on 21 August, six 500-MD armed helicopters conducted an exercise of locating and firing at objects on our side while making very low altitude flights over Pangmong from Munsanri, Paju County. At 2240 formations of transportation helicopters [susong chiksonggi] flying over Chomunri, Paju County, made nightime in-depth infiltration and landing and taking-off exercises, thus kicking off a war frenzy.

Before this, at 0900 105-mm artillery groups, which were deployed in various fire encampments in the area in Chongok-ni, Yonchon County, fired approximately 40 rounds of artillery at a point in Hyongari, Kapyong County, near the MDL. Following this, at 1000 105-mm artillery units in Yulli, Cholwon County, Kangwon Province, in South Korea, indiscriminately fired more than 50 rounds of artillery in the areas along the MDL, thus threatening us.

In addition, at around 1000 19 heavy tanks of the puppet army mobilized in combat formation from Chonggari, Paju County, in the direction of Kumpari along the road on the south side of the Imjin River, thus staging a war exercise.

Combat Readiness of ROK Armed Forces Viewed

SK2308043091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "Ominous Military Move"]

[Text] A very ominous situation has now been promoted on the Korean peninsula. Foreign press reports say that on 21 August, the puppet defense minister ordered all the South Korean puppet armed forces to achieve a high degree of combat readiness. In connection with this, the puppets have babbled that this measure was necessary to deal with a certain action, that is, military action and southward invasion, which we may commit, taking advantage of a crisis in a third country. This is shameless sophistry and a mere excuse to justify their criminal war maneuvers.

As you well know, aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula, thus intensifying North-South confrontation and provoking a new war in the long run, is an unchanging aggressive ambition that the U.S. imperialists and the puppets have pursued for a long time. Therefore, even while saying something about the alleviation of tension or peace, they have only speeded up preparations for a war of northward invasion behind the scenes. The recent military moves are sufficient enough to say this.

The U.S. imperialists, who have been seized with utter arrogance and megalomania since the Persian Gulf war, have babbled that the Korean peninsula is the most dangerous place where a regional war can break out and even mapped out a 120-day-war scenario. A while ago, the puppets and their U.S. masters signed the so-called Wartime Host Nations Support agreement, which is usually signed only during wartime or on the eve of a war. In this way, they made the breakout sooner or later of a war on the Korean peninsula an accomplished fact.

Moreover, those fellows' war exercises and military provocations have become graver. On 20 August alone, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets flew approximately 600 military airplanes of various sorts over South Korea and conducted large-scale joint strike exercises and espionage against the northern half of the Republic. On the same day, they moved in groups of tens heavy tanks near the DMZ along the Military Demarcation Line and conducted concentrated tank firing exercises. They also fired recoilless cannons, large-caliber machine guns, and automatic rifles at random, thus inspiring a war atmosphere.

The No Tae-u ring ordered the puppet armed forces to achieve a high degree of combat readiness at a time when the warmongers have openly made the violent remarks that they would launch a surprise strike against the North and when very dangerous war exercises have been conducted more frequently. This is not a matter that can be overlooked casually.

At a security meeting, the puppet Defense Minister said that the North's armed forces had not been seen to have made any moves yet. Nevertheless, they had the puppet armed forces achieve combat readiness using us as an excuse. This is a very ominous military move designed to ignite a fuse of war of northward invasion by bringing the situation to the brink of war under the excuse of nonexistent threats of southward invasion. The war commotions by the puppets are a vicious challenge to all the fellow countries who are making efforts for peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula and are an unforgivable crime.

A favorable atmosphere is being promoted between the North and South. In particular, with the 15 August pannational rally as an opportunity, the fellow countrymen's ardent desire for reunification has been further heightened than ever. The South Korean puppets are kicking up war commotions at this time. This clearly shows that they do not want dialogue or reunification, but are persistently pursuing to achieve reunification after prevailing over communism by way of war.

The criminal maneuvers by the No Tae-u ring, which deliberately aggravate North-South relations and pour a wet blanket over the fellow countrymen's ardent desire for reunification, will never be tolerated. We will never look with folded arms on the ominous situation which has been promoted in South Korea and will keenly watch it with high revolutionary vigilance. If they, without carefully listening to our warning, embark upon the road toward provoking war after all, those fellows will be held fully responsible for all the consequences that may arise therefrom. The No Tae-u ring must not run wild recklessly.

South's Economy Due to 'Predatory' U.S. Policy

SK2208155091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 22 (KCNA)—The South Korean economy is floundering in a serious crisis.

The seriousness of the South Korean economic crisis finds expression not in one economic sphere but in all domains and at all links—trade, production, circulation and consumption.

Trade which the South Korean authorities claimed to be the leading factor of economic "growth" is "in the worst phase".

According to a report, South Korea suffered a $8,098 million deficit in trade from January to the end of July this year owing to dull export and sharp growth of import.

This is far more than the 5.3 billion dollars of trade gap in 1980 which was called the "worst crisis" by the South Korean authorities.

In addition, the South Korean authorities recorded a current payment deficit to the tune of 5,839 million dollars, the biggest in history, in the first half of the year, consequent on the remittance of profits by foreign monopolies and the snowballing technological fees.

This means that the foreign exchange holdings of the South Korean authorities are running out.

Dull export is driving big and minor businesses to bankruptcy.

Major enterprises of 30 comprador businesses are also undergoing serious difficulties in their management.

As of the end of last year, the debts of 88 leading businesses amounted to 48,756,100 million won.

This tells that all the comprador businesses of South Korea are, without exception, "insolvent" or "critical" businesses on the verge of bankruptcy.

The serious crisis of the South Korean economy is expressed in that it is undergoing a galloping inflation. The total currency in circulation in the first five months of this year was 46.4 percent above that in the same period last year.

Prices have jumped two to five times as against last year's.

Such catastrophic state of the South Korean economy is an inevitable product of the predatory colonial economic policy of the U.S. imperialists and treacherous and sycophantic policy of the No Tae-u ruling group.

University Students Hold 'Indignation Meeting'

SK2308060591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0514 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—Students of Kim Il-song University held an indignation meeting Thursday to denounce the U.S. imperialists' moves for a nuclear war.

Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sun, delegates of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea, staying in Pyongyang, were present at the meeting.

Speakers at the meeting said that the students of Kim Il-song University sat at one place with Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-sun, delegates of Chondaehyop, to merge their voices with the other students in the North and the South denouncing the U.S. imperialists, the very one who caused the division of Korea and are imposing immeasurable sufferings and misfortunes on the Korean people.

They scathingly denounced the U.S. imperialist aggressors who, completely having subjugated South Korea politically, militarily and economically, have shipped in their more than 40,000 troops and more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons and annually staged frantic "Team Spirit" nuclear war exercises in a desperate bid to make the Korean nation fall victim to a nuclear war, and blocked the way of the Mt. Paektu-Mt. Halla grand reunification march squad to the place of reunification festival.

The only way for the prosperity of our nation is to drive the U.S. imperialist aggressors out of this land, the speakers stressed, manifesting the determination of the entire students of the university, to do their utmost in the future, too, as in the past, to drive the U.S. imperialist aggressors from South Korea and unfailingly achieve the national reunification, joining force with the South Korean students including Chondaehyop.

Hwang Son-ho, a student of the history faculty, recited a poem "Set Fire to the Stars and Stripes of U.S. Imperialists".

When the recital was at its height the stars and stripes was set ablaze.

Pak Song-hui, delegate of Chondaehyop, took the floor.

It is a demonstration of the stamina of students on the Korean peninsula to the world that fellow students from the North and South have burnt together the U.S. imperialists' flag for the first time, 46 years since the division, demanding withdrawal of the nuclear weapons and U.S. troops deployed in the South and adoption of a nonaggression declaration, she said, and concluded her speech by shouting the slogan "Let us drive out the Yankees who hinder the national reunification".

Then, they participated in a signature campaign demanding denuclearization on the Korean peninsula and adoption of a North- South nonaggression declaration.

Daily Views U.S., South Troop Reduction Plan

SK2308055291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 23 Aug 91

["Aggressor Reveals True Color" — KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The United States and South Korea at the "high-level working talks" held in Honolulu agreed on "freezing" or "minimizing as best as they can" the "second-phase reduction plan" of the U.S. troops present in South Korea which was to begin in 1993.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

This once again reveals to the world the reactionary essence and falsity of the "reduction plan" advertised by the U.S. imperialists.

When announcing the so-called "U.S. troops cut plan" the U.S. imperialists had advertised it as a step for the "relaxation" of tensions and "peace" on the Korean peninsula. As can be seen in its inside aspect it is neither partial arms reduction nor phased withdrawal for the U.S. troops' complete pullout from South Korea.

The "cutback" drama of the U.S. imperialists is a criminal act designed to ship new-type weapons and combat equipment into South Korea to take the place of some logistic personnel and useless equipment to be withdrawn and thus increase the "combat capabilities" and "efficiency" of the U.S. forces and hasten the preparations for a war of aggression against the North while cheating and making a mockery of public opinion at home and abroad with the gesture of "pullout".

The purpose sought by the U.S. imperialists in the Korean peninsula for the present is to keep the U.S. troops and nuclear arms in South Korea and unleash another war against the North.

The U.S. imperialists must give up the deceptive "troop cut plan" and take a step to pull their forces and nuclear weapons out of South Korea as demanded by the Korean people and the peoples in Asia and the rest of the world.

U.S. 'Aggressive Korea Policy' Discussed

SK2308134291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1054 GMT 23 Aug 91

["Anachronistic U.S. Korea Policy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The United States' persistent pursuance of an aggressive Korea policy which is based on the anachronistic position of strength going against the trend of the times reveals the hypocrisy of "peace" and "arms reduction" advertised by it, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

A durable peace on the Korean peninsula desired by our people has not been realised owing to the U.S. anachronistic Korea policy, the article points out, and continues:

The United States is trying to keep hold on South Korea as its colony and military base and establish its domination over the whole of Korea by strength.

Today the international situation has taken a turn for detente. But, on the Korean peninsula, a situation contrary to it has been created by the U.S. imperialists' policy of confrontation and war.

The United States seeks a permanent occupation of South Korea and war with the shameless design to maintain and expand the system of domination over Asia in reliance upon South Korea, its only colony in the region, and, furthermore, dominate the world.

Though it is talking a lot about the "relaxation of tensions" on the Korean peninsula, it is, in actuality, concentrating efforts on the schemings against our Republic, taking advantage of the imbalance of forces in international relations.

The U.S. imperialists are not only trying to maintain their huge aggression forces and more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea for an indefinite period but also reinforcing them qualitatively, crying for their "modernization" and increase of their "efficiency".

They are more frantically holding war exercises in and around South Korea with the mobilisation of huge aggression forces and nuclear means present in the Asia-Pacific region and staging three-dimensional nuclear strike exercises for a pre-emptive attack on the depths of the northern half of Korea.

The U.S. ruling quarters at recent "working talks" with the South Korean puppets raised outcries over fictitious "development of nuclear weapons" by the North and threatened that they would not hesitate to use "armed forces" to hold it in check.

In its overheated anti-DPRK false propaganda nowadays the United States seeks to make the international community regard our Republic as a "dangerous state" and invent a pretext to start a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

Though they say cold war between the East and the West came to an end and an era of peace has come to stay, the U.S. rulers are still pursuing a war policy based on nuclear weapons, a product of the cold war era, on the Korean peninsula.

Whether the United States changes its Korea policy or not will be a litmus test of its stand on peace and arms reduction.

Soviet Trade Union Delegates Interviewed 21 Aug

SK2308104991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1021 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The delegation of the General Confederation of Soviet Trade Unions headed by its secretary I.A. Okunkov, on a visit to Korea, was interviewed by reporters here Wednesday.

Giving his impressions of Korea, he said all the achievements made by the Korean people in the building of socialism today are unthinkable apart from the wise leadership of the great Comrade Kim Il-song.

Korea must be reunified through confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, he said, and stressed: this is a unanimous desire of the Korean people.

Saying that Korean reunification should be realized independently, without any outside interference, he emphasized: Korea is sure to be reunified.

The Korean people are carrying on overall construction audaciously, Bukach Yevgeniy, a member of the delegation, noted, adding:

Today all children in Korea are learning to their heart's content, enjoying benefits from the state.

Today the Korean people are inheriting the precious fighting spirit of the revolutionary martyrs and pushing ahead with the revolution and construction with full conviction and optimism of the future.

Only victory is in store for the brave and industrious Korean people.

Soviets Lay Wreaths at Taesongsan, Other Places

SK2308065491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 15 Aug 91

[Text] On the occasion of the 46th anniversary of Korea's liberation, the Soviet Embassy in our country on 15 August laid wreaths at Taesongsan Revolutionary Martyr Cemetery, the Liberation Tower, and the graveyard of the Soviet officers and men.

Aleksandr Kapto, Soviet ambassador, employees of the Soviet Embassy, and Soviet guests visiting our country participated in the ceremony to lay the wreaths.

Honor guards of the Korean People's Army were present at Taesongsan Revolutionary Martyr Cemetery, the Liberation Tower, and the graveyard of the Soviet officers and men.

Amid the sound of the music revealing the start of the ceremony to lay the wreath, a wreath on behalf of the Soviet Embassy was laid at Taesongsan Revolutionary Martyr Cemetery. The participants silently prayed in memory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the sacred cause for Korea's liberation and the people's freedom and happiness.

Next the Soviet Embassy laid wreaths at the Liberation Tower and the graveyard in Sadong District of the Soviet officers and men. Amid the sound of the music revealing the start of the ceremony to lay wreaths, wreaths on behalf of the Soviet Embassy were separately laid at the Liberation Tower and the graveyard of the Soviet officers and men. The participants silently prayed in memory of the Soviet officers and men who sacrificed their lives in the fight for Korea's liberation.

Also on this day the Soviet consulate general in Chongjin and the Soviet guests laid wreaths at the Liberation Tower and the graveyard of the Soviet officers and men in Chongjin.

Foreign Minister Meets With Soviet Ambassador

SK2208152791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 22 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, met with Soviet Ambassador to the DPRK A. Kapto in Pyongyang this afternoon.

The foreign minister was informed in detail of the present situation in the Soviet Union by the Soviet ambassador, officially authorized by the Soviet leadership.

Kim Yong-nam expressed the hope that everything would go well as Gorbachev performs his duty again.

The internal affairs of the Soviet Union should be solved by the Soviet people themselves, he said, adding: It is our consistent stand to hope everything will go well and be stabilized in the Soviet Union.

He expressed the belief that the DPRK-USSR cooperation in different domains would continue to develop in the future, too, as in the past.

WPK Delegates Meets Bangladesh Party Leader

SK2308051191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The Workers' Party of Korea has built a fortress of socialism in Korea by applying the great chuche idea.

Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh [WPK], said this when he met head of the WPK delegation Kim Chae-pong, vice-director of a department of the party Central Committee, in Nepal on August 16.

All the revolutionary people of the world are looking up to Korea as a beacon of hope and learning from the success and experiences of the Workers' Party of Korea which has built socialism, he stressed, and added:

The Workers' Party of Bangladesh hopes that respected Comrade President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il will continue to wisely lead the struggle of parties and people of all countries who aspire after socialism and communism.

Denuclearization Meeting Keynote Address Noted

SK2308103291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—Man Mohan Adhikary, president of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism), made a keynote report titled "On Denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula and Removing U.S. Nuclear Threat From Asian Region" at the conference of political parties and public organizations for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula against U.S. nuclear threat to Asia which was held in Nepal.

The reporter said that ushering in the 1980's the U.S. Administration defined the Asia-Pacific region as the main target in implementing its strategy for global domination and reinforced the nuclear armed forces in the region, while stepping up the policy of war.

He continued:

The United States is working to dominate the whole of Korea and the Asian continent by using South Korea as a stepping stone.

Having defined South Korea as the "an directly linked with the U.S. security" and "the first line of U.S. strategy", the United States has largely reinforced its strategic weapons including nuclear arms in South Korea, while staging nuclear war exercises unceasingly. [sentence as received]

According to the U.S. Korea strategy, more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons have been deployed in South Korea which is not large land.

The "Team Spirit," U.S.-South Korea joint military exercises are a test nuclear war to quickly hurl on to the Korean front huge armed forces present in the Asia-Pacific region and the U.S. mainland and attack the DPRK and other Asian countries.

In its bid to establish and maintain its supremacy in Asia, the United States will not hesitate to use nuclear weapons under some pretext.

Recalling that the DPRK has made constructive proposals and taken initiatives on many occasions for peace and reunification of Korea including a proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo, a proposal for tripartite talks and a proposal for the denuclearization and peace of the Korean peninsula, he went on:

The United States is now crying over non-existent "nuclear facilities" of the DPRK and insisting on unfair "nuclear inspection" in a bid to cover up the danger of the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and justify its policy of nuclear blackmail.

It is necessary for all the political parties and public organizations in Asia to conduct vigorous activities for putting an end to arms race, having nuclear weapons and foreign military bases removed and preventing the formation of a new military bloc on the Korean peninsula and the rest of Asia.

Activities should be conducted to encourage the peace-loving people in their struggle for establishing nuqlear-free zones and peace zones in northeast Asia, the Pacific and other parts.

It is necessary for all the political parties and social organizations to expose the unfair demand of the United States for unilateral "nuclear inspection" and put pressure on the United States to discharge its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and give assurances that it would not use nuclear weapons.

Peoples, political parties and social organizations in Asia should form a united front, closely unite under the banner of anti-imperialism, independence, anti-war and peace, transcending the differences in ideology, social system and religious belief, and jointly counter the imperialists' policy of aggression and nuclear war provocation moves.

Delegate Addresses Denuclearization Meeting

SK2308052291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—Kim Chae-pong, head of the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a supplementary report at the conference of political parties and public organizations for denuclearization of Korean peninsula against U.S. Nuclear threat to Asia which was held in Nepal.

To prevent the danger of nuclear war and ensure durable peace on the Korean peninsula is not only vital for the survival of the Korean nation but also directly linked with the improvement of the situation in the Asia-Pacific region and guarantee of global peace and security, he said, and went on:

Tension is growing acute and the danger of nuclear war is increasing on the Korean peninsula. This is a direct outcome of the U.S. Korea policy and Asia strategy.

By the U.S. strategy toward Korea, South Korea has been turned into the largest nuclear military base in the Far East, where more than 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons and U.S. troops more than 40,000 strong have been deployed and 40 underground nuclear vaults been built.

The United States continues shipping into South Korea various kinds of nuclear missiles and binary chemical weapons and building nuclear airforce bases and large-scale storehouses for nuclear bombs.

Declaring that the "second Korean war will be a nuclear war", the United States has worked out a plan for a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula and is ceaselessly staging nuclear military exercises of all forms.

Worse still, the power to use nuclear arms on the Korean peninsula is in the hand of the commander of the U.S. forces occupying South Korea, unlike the case in other parts of the world.

The U.S. claim that it has deployed them to protect South Korea from the "threat of southward invasion" is a lie to justify its moves of aggression.

It is clear that more than 1,000 nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea by the United States are after all aimed at threatening and bringing under its control the Asian people and dominating the whole territory of Korea and Asia.

No one can vouch that the United States, which is invariably pursuing the policy of strength in Asia, will not use nuclear weapons against the countries in the region under some pretext.

On several occasions, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forward the proposal to establish a nuclear-free zone and peace zone in Northeast Asia. Notably, the DPRK in December 1985 joined the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and, according to the idea of the treaty, proposed to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone. This proceeds from the antinuclear peace idea.

The United States is now making a noise about our non-existent nuclear facilities and "nuclear inspection." It is an excuse to cover up the danger of nuclear weapons in South Korea and justify the policy of nuclear blackmail.

If the nuclear inspection is to be made, it should not be forced upon us alone with no nuclear weapons, but the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea should be opened to the public and an international inspection of them made at the same time.

The U.S. and South Korean authorities must accept the DPRK's proposal for three-way talks for ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula and take measures to pull the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons out of South Korea.

We will make persevering efforts to further develop dialogue between the North and the South for settling the issue of national reunification and surmount the difficulties and obstacles in the way of reunification.

Asian Committee for Korea's Reunification Formed

SK2308103891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 23 Aug 91

[All names as received]

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The Asian Regional Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification was inaugurated in Kathmandu on August 17.

The inaugural meeting elected Man Mohan Adhikary, president of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism), and Hiroshi Wakabayashi, vice-chairman of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea and director of the secretariat of the Japan Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, honorary chairmen of the Asian Regional Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification.

Vice-Chairman of the Nepal-Korea Friendship Association Nmanik Lal Shresta, Vice-Chairman of the Indian Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification Shashi Bhushan, information secretary of the Sind provincial committee of the Pakistan People's Party Nabilyah Medrandabul, Vice-Chairman of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party Ranatunga and general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh Rashed Khanmenon were elected vice-chairmen of the committee, and secretary general of the All India Indo-Korean Friendship Association Om Praksh Mantri secretary general of the committee.

It was decided to locate the committee in India.

An action program of the Asian Regional Committee for supporting Korea's Reunification was adopted at the meeting.

Expressing support to the proposal for reunification through confederation put forward by President Kim Il-song, the program stresses that all the organizations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people in the Asian region will conduct a vigorous movement in support of Korea's reunification on the occasion of the "month for supporting the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo".

Contending that a nonaggression declaration should be adopted between the North and the South of Korea and the Korean Armistice Agreement be replaced by a peace treaty, it says:

We will energetically conduct a solidarity movement to support the Korean people in their struggle for having U.S. troops and nuclear weapons taken out of South Korea and making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone.

We will actively support the Korean people in their struggle to pull down the concrete wall built by South Korea and realize free travel and full-scale opening between the North and the South.

Warmly hailing the DPRK's recent measures to enter the United Nations, we will conduct dynamic solidarity activities to support the Korean people in their struggle against the "two Koreas" plot of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

We will actively carry on solidarity activities in various forms and war to support the South Korean youth, students and people in their struggle for abolishing the "National Security Law" and other anti-democratic evil laws in South Korea, denouncing the fascist suppression and human rights violations and achieving the democratisation of society and national reunification.

Australian Socialist Head, Kim Chae-pong Meet

SK2308125591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The Socialist Party of Australia hopes that contact and exchange with the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] would be further expanded, said Jack McPhillips, president of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Australia, when he met on August 17 with Kim Chae-pong, vice-director of a department of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK, who is heading a delegation of the WPK on visit to Nepal.

He said that the WPK which is making a dynamic advance along the road of socialism without vacillation under the complicated international situation gives to the people conviction and hope for the future.

Nepal Ceremony Starts Korean 'Solidarity March'

SK2308130091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—A starting ceremony of the "international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification" in the Asian region was held in Kathmandu on August 18.

The ceremony was attended by participants in the meeting of political parties and public organizations for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula against U.S. nuclear threat to Asia, including president of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism) Man Mohan Adhikary, and general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Bangladesh Rashed Khan Menon and others mone than 35,000 in all.

A statement upon the starting ceremony was adopted there.

Of prime importance in achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea at present is to remove the U.S. threat of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula and create a peaceful climate for the country's reunification, the statement said, stressing: The United States must replace the Korean Armistice Agreement by a peace agreement, immediately withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and completely discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

It demanded that the South Korean authorities discard the ambition for "unification by prevailing over communism", immediately come out to the negotiating table to discuss with the North the proposal of reunification through confederation, stop suppressing on the pro-reunification patriotic forces and unconditionally set free the visitors to the North.

Speeches were made by delegates of political parties and public organizations from different countries.

The president of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism) who is honorary chairman of the Asian Regional Committee To Support Korea's Reunification, said in his speech that the sufferings of the Korean people from division are tormenting the peoples in Nepal, in Asia and the rest of the world. The Korean reunification question should be solved without fail according to the proposal to found a democratic confederal republic of Koryo advanced by President Kim Il-song, he added.

In his speech Abdul Malik, secretary general of the Karachi branch of the Pakistan-Korea Friendship Association, condemned the U.S. imperialists as the common enemy of the Asian people and called upon the dignified Asian people to unite to overthrow them.

Jack McPhillips, president of the C.C., Socialist Party of Australia, said in his speech: Though we are away from each other geographically, we altogether hope for peace in Asia and want nuclear arms to be withdrawn from South Korea and Korea to be reunified. The U.S. imperialists, he stressed, must clearly realize that though they have deployed mass destruction weapons in South Korea united voices of people are more powerful than them.

Prior to the starting ceremony the participants marched a 4-km section carrying large placards and slogan boards reading "Korea is one", "The U.S., take hands off South Korea", etc.

Kim Il-song Receives Nuclear Conference Letter

SK2308051091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a letter from the participants in the conference of political parties and public organizations for denuclearization of Korean peninsula against U.S. nuclear threat to Asia which was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The letter stressed that it is the most pressing task for the Asian people to denuclearize, in firm unity, the Korean peninsula fraught with the greatest danger of nuclear war, accelerate the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea and remove the tension in Northeast Asia.

The 1,000 nuclear weapons deployed by the United States in the southern half of the Korean peninsula not only threaten the existence of the Korean people but also constitute the main source of menace to peace and security in Asia, the letter said, and went on:

We scathingly denounce the unilateral arbitrary attempt of the United States to force nuclear inspection on the northern half of Korea which has no intention or capacity to manufacture nuclear arms and is ready to sign the Nuclear Safeguards accord any time according to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. And we strongly demand that the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea be made public and an international inspection of them made at the same time.

We hold that the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity and the method of reunification through confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, which were clarified by Your Excellency president, indicate a correct, straight way for hastening Korea's reunification.

The letter wholeheartedly wished President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Kim Chong-il Receives Denuclearization Letter

SK2308101691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from the participants in the conference of political parties and public organizations for denuclearization of Korean peninsula against U.S. nuclear threat to Asia which was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The letter stressed that the Asian people in firm unity should get the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons taken out of South Korea and make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone in order to build an independent and prosperous new Asia.

The letter said:

We denounce it as unilateral, big-power arbitrariness of the United States to insist on inspection of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that has no single nuclear weapon. And we strongly demand that the United States open to the public the nuclear weapons it has introduced into South Korea and accept simultaneous international inspection of them.

Considering that the method of reunification through confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments, which was clarified by respected President Kim Il-song, is a most correct and realistic way of the independent reunification of Korea, we fully support it.

We demand that the United States discard its anachronistic Korea policy and come to DPRK-U.S. talks for concluding a peace treaty and the North and the South of Korea adopt a non-aggression declaration and remove confrontation.

The letter heartily wished Comrade Kim Chong-il a long life in good health.

Cuban Foreign Ministry Supports Denuclearization

SK2308054191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Havana August 21 (KCNA)—The Cuban paper GRANMA August 20 carried a statement issued by a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of Cuba in support of the statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea containing a new proposal of its government for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula under the title "Denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula".

It said that it is one of the greatest interests and ardent desires of mankind in the present period to reduce nuclear weapons and remove their threat from the globe.

Noting that Cuba has always opposed mass destruction weapons, especially nuclear weapons, it stressed:

Proceeding from this policy, the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Cuba considers denuclearization on the Korean peninsula to be greatly conducive to ensuring peace and security in the world and expresses most steadfast support to the DPRK's proposal to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

Kim Il-song Sends Messages to Heads of State

SK2308114291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1102 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent messages to foreign party and state leaders in reply to their messages on the occasion of the month of solidarity with the Korean people and the 38th anniversary of the vistory of the Korean people in the Fatherland Liberation War.

The reply messages were sent to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great September First Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah; Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic; Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation; Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt; Lansana Conte, president of the Republic of Guinea, president of the Transitional Council of National Redressment and head of state; Sam Nujoma, president of the Republic of Namibia; Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar; Amadou Toumani Toure, president of the Provisional Committee for the Salvation of People and head of state of the Republic of Mali; Blaise Compaore, president and head of the government of Burkina Faso; France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles; and Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the Republic of Togo.

In the reply messages, President Kim Il-song expressed the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and those countries would grow stronger and develop.

International Journalists Meet in Pyongyang

SK2308051991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0444 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—A consultative meeting of the presidents of journalist organizations in Asia and Oceania opened at the People's Palace of Culture Thursday.

The meeting was participated in by chiefs and officials of the International Organization of Journalists [IOJ] and journalist organizations of countries in Asia and Oceania, officials of the Central Committee of the Korean Journalists Union and a delegate of the Association of Korean Journalists and publishers under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

The chairman of the preparatory committee for the consultative meeting made an opening address which was followed by a speech of the president of the union of the Mongolian Journalists who is vice-president of the IOJ.

Discussions at the meeting will be focused on results of activities conducted by national journalist organizations to implement the resolutions of the 11th IOJ convention, on setting up the Asian and Oceanian regional secretariat of the IOJ and defining its venue and a series of other matters.

The participants expressed regret that South Korean pressmen failed to participate in the current meeting owing to the South Korean authorities' blockade.

At the meeting speeches were made by delegates of national journalist organizations on relevant matters.

The speakers informed about the activities of national journalist organizations and pressmen, noting that the current consultative meeting will mark an important occasion in further enhancing the role of journalists, pressmen of the countries in Asia and Oceania which are striving to build a new society, and strengthening solidarity and cooperation among them.

They stressed the need to set up the Asian and Oceanian regional secretariat of the IOJ, and its significance and unanimously proposed to place the regional secretariat in Pyongyang.

A relevant resolution was adopted at the meeting that day.

The meeting continues.

Regional Chuche Institute Publishes Bulletin

SK2308124991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The Asian Regional Institute of the Chuche Idea published the bulletin "The Age of Chuche" No. 35 on Aug. 10.

The bulletin carries "The Party's Leadership Should Be Strenghtened With the Main Stress on Work With People", the third part of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "The Workers' Party of Korea Organizes and Guides All the Victories of Our People."

Edited in it are articles entitled "The Man to Whom the Highest Respect Is Paid", "Maxim of President Kim Il-song", "The Road Taken by Korea", "President Kim Il-song and Greening of Land," "The Way of Korea's Reunification Is Confederal Formula" and "Clothing Question Has Been Solved in the DPRK".

Kim Il-song Work on Reunification Discussed

SK2308132191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 23 Aug 91

["Correct Guideline in Struggle To Strengthen Driving Force of Reunification"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The way of achieving the great unity of the nation indicated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his work "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of our Nation" is a correct guideline that must be firmly maintained and fully implemented in the struggle to promote the unity of the entire nation and strengthen the driving force of reunification, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

The article says:

The great leader said that the Koreans in the North, the South and overseas must give top priority to the commom interests of the nation and subordinate everything to the cause of national reunification, transcending differences in ideology, social system and religious belief, and added that we must regard this as a fundamental principle in achieving great national unity and firmly adhere to this principle.

In the work, he also laid down concrete ways of achieving the great unity of the nation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"It is natural,..., that the whole nation should unite its will and rally as one in the struggle for national reunification, and this is fully possible."

He said that if the great unity of the nation is to be achieved, contacts and visits should be widely encouraged and dialogue actively developed among the Koreans in the North, the South and overseas.

If the whole nation is to act in concert and pool strength for the common purpose for national reunification, an atmosphere of understanding and confidence should be created within the nation. To this end, it is necessary to encourage free visits and dialogue among the fellow countrymen in the North, South and abroad.

What is important here is to pull down the barrier of division and remove all political and legal obstacles.

The South Korean authorities must pull down without delay the reinforced concrete wall built in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line and abolish the "National Security Law" and other evil laws at an early date, not paying only lip service to free travel and complete opening.

In order to achieve great national unity, we must strengthen nationwide solidarity in the struggle for national reunification.

All political parties, organisations and compatriots from all walks of life in the North, South and overseas must support each other and take concerted actions in the struggle for the country's reunification.

The compatriots in the North, South and overseas must wage a joint struggle of various forms to isolate and weaken the anti-reunification forces and smash their separatist moves, a nationwide struggle to have the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

In order to achieve great national unity, all the political parties, bodies, organisations and compatriots of all strata in the North, South and overseas that are struggling for the reunification of the country must ally themselves with one another organisationally.

The Pan-National Alliance for the Country's Reunification which was formed last year by the joint efforts of the patriotic bodies and organisations, and public figures of all strata in the North, South and abroad that aspire to the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, is a patriotic organisation for the reunification movement, whose mission it is to reunify the country on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, and which represents the common will of the nation.

It must work hard, conducting various activities, to expand and strengthen its ranks steadily among our compatriots at home and abroad and to accelerate national reunification.

'Senior Middle Schools No. 1' Produce Graduates

SK2308131291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—The senior middle schools No. 1 in all provinces of Korea have produced their first graduates who have finished the six-year course.

All of them who were recommended to Kim Il-song University, Kim Chaek University of Technology, the University of Science and other universities as they hoped entered the regular courses.

Senior middle schools No. 1 bring up pupils gifted with extraordinary attainments and talent as competent native cadres through systematic education.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il saw to it that senior middle schools No. 1 were built in all provinces, gave detailed teachings as to the student enrollment and scale of schools, the contents and methods of education and even the appointment of teachers and sent uptodate experimental and practice appliances and educational materials to the schools.

The educational policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on properly fostering the distinguished attainments and talent of pupils is profusely paying off in their school records.

Pupils of Kim Chong-suk Senior Middle School No. 1, Pyongyang, Sinuiju and Haeju Senior Middle Schools No. 1 won high appreciation from the jury at the 31st and 32nd mathematics Olympic contests held in China and Sweden.

Film Week Opens To Mark Youth Day 22 Aug

SK2308045991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—A film week will be held from Aug. 22 to 28 to mark the youth day.

The August 28 when the great leader President Kim Il-song founded the Young Communist League of Korea (1927) during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle has been set as Youth Day which will be marked annually from this year.

Showing at cinema houses during the week are documentary films on the great leadership exploits of the respected leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, feature films including "The Star of Korea" and "The Sun of the Nation" and films on the theme of the Korean people's struggle for socialist construction and their happy and worthwhile life, the heroic feats and revolutionary optimism of young people.

The opening ceremony of the film week took place at the central youth hall Thursday.

North Hamgyong Province Restores Cultural Relics

SK2208155291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1514 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Pyongyang August 22 (KCNA)—The work of rehabilitating cultural legacies is brisk in Korea.

More than 200 cultural monuments have been restored to their original state in recent years in North Hamgyong Province.

They include 60 odd walls including the county-seat wall of Kyongsong County built in 1107, which is of great value as a national treasure, several buildings such as Kaesim Temple built in 826, Ssanggye Temple built in 1395, signal-fire stands, primitive relics, tombstones, towers and other structures.

Over 280 metres of walls have been rebuilt and over 80 stoves of signal-fire stands restored to their original state in this province this year alone.

The rehabilitation of historical monuments is also being promoted energetically in Pyongyang, Kaesong and provinces.

KCNA Reviews 23 Aug Pyongyang Press

SK2308060391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang August 23 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today prints a solidarity letter to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, from Mohamed Bel Hadj Amor, general secretary of the People's Unity Party of Tunisia, supporting the joint statement of the DPRK political parties and public organisations and the DPRK Government's decision to join the United Nations.

Papers report that immortal classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song were reported and deeply studied in foreign countries.

Papers inform the readers that works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are deeply studied in different countries.

NODONG SINMUN tells about the care shown by Comrade Kim Chong-il in building about 200 health complexes such as the Changgwang health complex in Pyongyang across the nation.

A collection of poems "Heroic Korea" was published in English in Ghana, says the paper.

The paper comes out with an article titled "Managing the Economy With Scientific Methods is Important Requirement of Taean Work System."

It reports that the construction of the three-revolution exhibition is progressing apace, the Kaechon district coal mining complex is increasing the production and crops are ruling good this year on farms.

The paper informs the readers that a meeting was held to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Kunja College of technology, a film week was opened to mark the Youth Day (August 28) and the consultative meeting of the presidents of the journalist organisations in Asia and Oceania was opened.

Delegates of Chondaehyop Pak Song-hui and Song Yong-song visited various places of Pyongyang, says the press.

Papers give an account of a meeting held by the students of Kim Il-song University denouncing the U.S. imperialists' moves to unleash a nuclear war.

Papers inform the readers that a contact between chief liaison officials of the North and the South for inter-Korean high-level talks was held.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article stressing that President Kim Il-song's line of great national unity is a correct guideline in the struggle to strengthen the driving force of reunification.

Papers report that the participants in the consultative meeting of Christians for Peaceful Reunification held in South Korea demanded the adoption of a North-South nonaggression declaration, the withdrawal of foreign troops and the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula and the South Korean puppets committed a hostile act by bringing heavy weapons in the demilitarized zone and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets incessantly staged provocative war exercises against the North.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary denouncing the United States and South Korea for deciding to "freeze" the "plan of second-stage reduction" of the U.S. troops in South Korea.

Seen in papers are reports that the Asian regional committee for supporting Korea's reunification was inaugurated in Nepal, an action program of the committee was adopted and a starting ceremony of the "international solidarity march for supporting Korea's reunification in Asian region was held in Nepal and a statement adopted at the ceremony.

Papers report that the spokesman of the Cuban Foreign Ministry issued a statement supporting the statement of the DPRK Foreign Ministry containing a new proposal of the DPRK Government for the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula.

Papers inform the readers of the situation in the Soviet Union, including a report that the Soviet president issued a statement over central television.

Papers report that the Soviet Union apprehended a South Korean fishing boat illegally catching squid in the Soviet waters and the information centre of the Soviet Defence Ministry denied the argument that Soviet bombers infiltrated into the skies of Japan.

Papers introduce the building of a new society in Pakistan, Nepal, Iran, Thailand, Malaysia, Egypt, Singapore and Sri Lanka.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the Zimbabwean president mentioned the economic development of the country, the Yemeni president expressed support to the struggle of the Palestinian people and Cuba asked the United Nations to discuss the anti-Cuban blockade by the U.S. imperialists at the 46th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The paper carries an article denouncing the anachronistic policy of the United States toward Korea.

South Korea

N-S Talks Reportedly Postponed Until 22 Oct

SK2308035391 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] The fourth North-South high-level talks will be postponed until 22 October. During a contact of responsible liaison officials held this morning at the House of Peace in the South side's area in Panmunjom, it has been learned that North and South Korea have tentatively agree to hold the fourth high-level talks in Pyongyang 22-25 October.

More on High-Level Talks

SK2308110091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1049 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—Officials of South and North Korea on Friday [23 August] agreed to defer the fourth round of their high-level talks to Oct. 22-25.

The liaison officers of the two sides met at the truce village of Panumjom Friday decided to changed only the date of the talks, agreeing to hold it in Pyongyang as originally scheduled. [sentence as received]

The two sides orginally planned to hold the meeting Aug. 27-30 in Pyongyang but the timing and venue of the talks became a bone of contention as North Korea abruptly proposed, shortly after the outbreak of a coup in Moscow, to change the venue and length of the talks ostensibly because of a cholera epidemic in South Korea.

On Tuesday [20 August], North Korea proposed moving the talks, which have already been postponed twice, from Pyongyang to Panmunjom, citing a cholera epidemic in South Korea.

Commenting on North Korea's acceptance of Pyongyang as the venue for the fourth high-level talks, a South Korean official said it occurred to him that North Korean officials eased to a certain degree their rigid stance in the wake of the Soviet coup's collapse.

"In deferring the date, North Korea seemed to be in need of more time to reconsider its position regarding the Soviet situation. And I think they had to postpone it in view of its tight schedule, including hostings of a ministerial meeting of the Asian group, Group of 77, next month and a U.N. Development Program (UNDP) meeting in October," he said.

* Reunification Alliance Holds Rally in Japan

912C0251A Seoul PUKHAN in Korean No 6, Jun 91 pp 74-83

[Article by Ho Tong-chan of the Seoul office of the Reunification Alliance, a specialist on North Korean affairs in Japan: "The Anti-Kim Il-song Movement in Japan"]

[Text] The Democratic Reunification Alliance of South and North Koreans in Japan (the Reunification Alliance for short) held a "national rally to expedite the reunification of the fatherland" at the Toshima Community Center in Tokyo on 9 May.

Although reports on the event were obscured by the death of Kang Kyong-tae in this country, the fact that the rally was held in Japan was very significant in the developments surrounding the North-South reunification issue. Also in the development of the independent, self-reliant mass movement of Korean residents in Japan, the rally was strikingly characteristic.

In this connection, I consider it necessary to briefly review the history of the Reunification Alliance, the background of and proceedings in the rally, and the Alliance's future struggles.

History of the Alliance

There were two noteworthy moves in the Korean society in Japan in 1990, the year marking the 45th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

The first was the "proposal concerning improvement in the treatment of South and North Korean residents in Japan" made public by Japanese and Korean intellectuals on 23 April, an appeal that paved the way for possible future improvements in the treatment of Koreans by the Japanese Government.

The second was the "rally of Korean residents in Japan to overthrow the Kim Il-song dictatorial regime and expedite the reunification of the fatherland" held on 27 May at Hibiya Park in Tokyo under the leadership of Ha Su-to, a former Chongnyon leader.

The Hibiya Park rally denounced the dictatorial control of Chongnyon by Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, demanding an end to the practice of Kim Il-song appointing Chongnyon officials and demanding that they be elected democratically by resident Chongnyon members.

Those two moves were particularly significant in that they were indicative of a new direction of Korean movements in Japan in the 1990's.

Needless to say, they were not without problems. For instance, the issue of defending the interests of Koreans in Japan should now no longer be confined to relations between the Japanese Government and the residents. The time has come to take a step farther and—while keeping this relationship in the center—consider the ties between residents and their respective home governments in the North and the South at the same time.

Especially, concerning the reunification issue, Koreans are beginning to realize that they are living in Japan—an established free and democratic society—as permanent residents and therefore should not make any preposterous demands that could be tantamount to repudiating their homes.

The Hibiya Park rally led by Ha Su-to, when viewed from this standpoint, inevitably posed problems. First of all, it was a rally of pro-North Korea residents, failing to embrace South Korean residents in Japan. Second, it demonstrated a chronic anachronism by insisting that the northern half of the fatherland should retain a "socialist system."

Key leaders of the Reunification Alliance first cooperated with Ha Su-to and the Hibiya Park rally by all means.

Among them was Yi Kwang, who until the 1950's had been a member of the Japan Communist Party [JCP]. The leftist Korean movement in Japan had been under the leadership of the JCP Minorities Measures Department from the dissolution of the Korean League in 1949 through 1955. It then had been in solidarity with the JCP from the creation of Chongnyon in May 1955 through the 1960's. This means that Yi Kwang's activities covered Korean movements in those days.

Meanwhile, Yi Kwang's uncle and foster father, Song Song-chol, a candidate member of the JCP Central Committee, returned to the Korean peninsula immediately after liberation and was purged by Kim Il-song in the 1950's for his affiliation with the South Korea Labor Party. After discovering this fact, Yi left the JCP, started his business and became a wealthy man in Japan. The Ha Su-to rally was largely funded by Yi Kwang and participants in the rally were also mostly mobilized by him.

Among Yi Kwang's comrades were Choe Chang-hwan, a former Chongnyon cadre; Chon Pu-ok, a writer-activist who worked for the Chongnyon-affiliated Tokyo Korean High School before moving to the [ROK-affiliated] Korean Residents Association [KRA]; and Chon Chi-pong, a KRA member. They played a major role, in the publicity and organizational areas, in leading the Ha Su-to rally to success.

However, the Yi Kwang group, prevented from launching a broader movement for the reunification of the fatherland by "Marxist-Leninist" Ha Su-to's stereotyped socialist way of thinking, was compelled to restart their movement, convinced that the Korean peninsula should be reunified on the basis of freedom and democracy.

It was about that time when Yi Kwang gained new comrades including Yim Song-koeng, who had been engaged in an anti-Kim Il-song struggle in Kyoto for over a decade; Ko Cham-sam, a Chongnyon organizer in Osaka who turned skeptical of Chongnyon and opposed it; and An Kyu-il, an ex-Chongnyon member in Tokyo. Also, such senior leftist movement leaders as Choe Yong-yon, Kim Pyong-chik and Pak Pyong-chik, and O Kyong-pok, an ex-KRA member, became Yi Kwang's advisers. Many other figures also thronged to Yi Kwang's side.

Thus, the "Democratic Reunification Alliance of South and North Korean Residents in Japan" was inaugurated in Tokyo on 15 October 1990 with these comrades as its key leaders.

At the time, the Reunification Alliance adopted the following program:

1. This alliance is dedicated to overthrowing the dictatorial system in the northern half of the fatherland—which is a feudal, dynastic monarchy—and establishing a democratic society based on the fundamental human rights and to consolidating contacts and solidarity with compatriots in North and South Korea.

2. This alliance is dedicated to establishing fundamental freedoms of political faith, thought, religion, speech, assembly, publication and association for the reunification of the fatherland and the integration of the nation.

3. This alliance is dedicated to achieving the peaceful reunification of the fatherland on the basis of the inner resources of the nation and through sincere dialogue and peaceful means through to the end.

4. This alliance is dedicated to protecting all the interests of compatriots in Japan, passing on to posterity our national culture and traditions of a long history and, at the same time, to ending the unproductive confrontation and antagonism that have continued in the Korean society in Japan for half a century now, and to uniting all the forces for the attainment of the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

5. This alliance is dedicated to maintaining close contacts with compatriots overseas and increasing solidarity with all the friendly international forces for the attainment of the peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Under this program, the Reunification Alliance launched an intensive grass-roots movement. As a result, it gained more than 500 members in the first month alone. Those belonging to Chongnyon had to risk persecution or causing trouble for relatives who had been repatriated to North Korea should they openly switch to the side of the Reunification Alliance. Nevertheless, a significantly large number of them joined the Alliance as secret members.

The Reunification Alliance, encouraged by this development, finally opened its main office in Shinjuku, Tokyo, on 8 December 1990. On that day I received a communication in Seoul and immediately became a member myself.

Then, a shocking thing occurred for Koreans in Japan. A Japanese delegation led by Shin Kanemaru met with Kim Il-song in Pyongyang to pave the way for Japan-North Korea normalization.

The start of the Japan-North Korea normalization talks raised the fear that the Korean interests gained in Japan to date could be seriously harmed by North Korea. The change in the situation made it necessary to launch a Korean residents movement or reunification movement of a new dimension.

On 29 January 1991, the Reunification Alliance therefore sent a letter to ROK President No Tae-u and North Korean President Kim Il-song requesting authorization to open its offices in Seoul and Pyongyang respectively. It was because the Alliance felt the need for permanent channels of appeal to the two governments on the Korean peninsula to protect the genuine interests of Korean residents in Japan.

North Korea did not respond to the open letter; only the ROK Government sent a reply. Its Foreign Ministry reply dated 1 April stated: "An office as referred to in your letter can generally be opened and operated within the framework of our civil laws when not registered as a social organization or corporation under the government jurisdiction." Thus, it became possible for the Reunification Alliance to open its office in Seoul as a private organization.

On 13 February, the Reunification Alliance again sent to Kim Il-song a "Letter to President Kim Il-song Concerning Normalization of Diplomatic Relations Between the Two Governments of North Korea and Japan," in the name of Chairman Yi Kwang.

This open letter contained the following eight questions:

1. Will "Choson"—entered under "Nationality" in the alien registration book issued by the Japanese Government—automatically change to "DPRK" on normalization?

If it will, will it be possible for those having the "Choson" nationality to change it to Japanese or ROK nationality? In other words, does the North Korean law recognize the freedom of selecting nationality?

2. Public property currently owned by Korean residents affiliated with Chongnyon is estimated at approximately 10 trillion yen in value. It is the property of Korean residents in Japan, not North Korean property. Will it become North Korean property and an object of plunder on normalization?

Also, Korean residents under Chongnyon have another approximately 10 trillion yen in private property. Will North Korea—whose economy is in a state of bankruptcy—plunder that private property under the pretext that it is state property because North Korea does not allow its citizens to own private property?

3. Will the current permanent residence acquired by Koreans in Japan be adversely affected by normalization?

4. At present, North Korea is frantically preparing for war. Will the military draft be imposed on Korean youth in Japan after normalization?

5. Since the "Choson" nationality does not necessarily mean North Korea, it has thus far been impossible to deport Koreans in Japan to North Korea. Will there be a way opened upon normalization for forcibly repatriating Koreans to North Korea under a treaty with Japan?

6. Will the current education program of Chongnyon—namely, that exclusively devoted to the personal cult of Kim Il-song—be carried on?

7. In the Japan-North Korea negotiations, the North Korean side, citing reasons for its demands for "reparation" and claims for the past 45 years, stated that Kim Il-song and the "Korean People's Revolutionary Army" led by him before liberation fought Japan and "won."

Should it be allowed to continue to embarrass Koreans in Japan with fabrications like that?

8. Among those repatriated to North Korea were Japanese wives. Will they be allowed to travel to Japan to visit their relatives?

These eight points represent the targets of the Reunification Alliance in its future struggle to protect the interests of Korean residents in Japan. The stage has been set for a struggle with the North Korean Government as well as with the Japanese Government over the treatment of Korean residents.

However, North Korea and even Chongnyon have thus far kept mum on the eight points. The silence could be seen as an indication of no rebuttal, proving that our fears were not unfounded.

The first session in the Japan-North Korea governmental talks on normalization was held in Pyongyang in late January 1991.

The Reunification Alliance places no hope on the current North-South talks. In short, it sees no chance of success in that dialogue at all so long as the Kim Il-song regime continues. Until the day the Kim Il-song regime is overthrown or collapses, there will be no way for the 20 million North Korean people to see light.

While showing no sincerity in the North-South talks, the North Korean regime is struggling to lead the normalization negotiations with Japan to success. It plans to prolong its life with an injection of Japanese money; however, it will not be satisfied after all with the money paid by the Japanese Government but will attempt to plunder "legally" the private and public property of Chongnyon-affiliated Koreans.

The Japan-North Korea normalization talks represent precisely a process of new pressure becoming increasingly realistic on Koreans in Japan. Therefore, the Reunification Alliance decided to have its four leaders—Yi Kwang, Yim Song-koeng, Ho Tong-chan and Chon Pu-ok—accept the invitation of the Japanese journal SHOKUN! and attend a panel discussion entitled "What Will Japan-North Korea Normalization Bring to Koreans in Japan?"

In the program Yi Kwang and Yim Song-koeng explained specifically how Japan-North Korea normalization will hurt the interests of Korean residents. I noted the unreasonable nature of North Korea's "reparation" demand. Chon Pu-ok presided over the program.

The panel discussion published in SHOKUN!—a sister publication of the monthly BUNGEI SHUNJU with an average circulation of 85,000—drew the attention of Japanese intellectuals. The April issue carrying it reportedly sold more than 100,000 copies. In our country, too, the translation of this panel discussion was published in the June issue of PUKHAN.

Furthermore, in order to supplement my remarks in that panel discussion, I wrote an article entitled "What in the World Was the So-Called Korean People's Revolutionary Army?" in the May issue of the Japanese magazine JIYU, exposing the lies about Kim Il-song's "anti-Japanese armed struggle." The article was also read widely.

The Reunification Alliance published the first issue of its organ THE REUNIFICATION ALLIANCE on 1 March 1991. The eight-page tabloid is printed twice a month, 15,000 copies each time. It had been published five times by the 9 May national rally of the Alliance.

Contained in the first issue were the program of the Reunification Alliance, events that led to the creation of the Alliance, the open letter sent to Presidents No Tae-u and Kim Il-song, and the second open letter sent to Kim Il-song. The color photographs of North Korea's scenic spots being spoiled by Kim Il-song's propaganda materials generated widespread response.

The second issue of THE REUNIFICATION ALLIANCE carried a commentary on how inappropriate Kim Il-song is as a party to deal with in the Japan-North Korea normalization talks and a namelist of members of the executive committee for the 9 May rally. The 52-member executive committee was chaired by Yim Song-koeng, first vice chairman of the Reunification Alliance.

The third issue carried Yi Kwang's interviews with former Japanese Prime Ministers Fukuda and Nakasone and with Foreign Minister Nakayama, plus North Korean photographs containing evidence of fabrications about the so-called Koran People's Revolutionary Army, and an article by Professor Yi Myong-yong of Songkyunkwan University encouraging the Alliance.

Published in the fourth issue of THE REUNIFICATION ALLIANCE dated 16 April was a report on forming a "preparatory committee for the establishment of an anti-Kim Il-song provisional government" both inside North Korea and overseas, based on information from a high-ranking member of North Korea's WPK [Workers Party of Korea]. The committee consists of 20 members from North Korea, seven from Japan, three from the United States, and five each from the Soviet Union, China and Europe. It was decided, the report said, that a namelist of the overseas part of the organization will be disclosed first—in late July.

With regard to such intensive activities by the Reunification Alliance, Chongnyon first took the stance of deliberately ignoring them. Slanderous articles published in its organ, CHOSON SINBO, on 31 January, 5 February and 12 March 1991 were mainly personal attacks on leaders. Never had there been any theoretical counterattack against the Alliance's position.

Then, on 6 April, CHOSON SINBO devoted most of its third page to a full-blast, defamatory account entitled "The Reunification Alliance Gang Is Not Qualified To Discuss a Democratic Reunification," attacking Yi Kwang as the main target. Drawing on a 3 July 1979 ASAHI SHIMBUN report falsely identifying him as a "land swindler," the CHOSON SINBO article denounced Yi Kwang as a "crook."

Actually, Yi Kwang was a victim in the "fraud" case mentioned. Although arrested once by Japanese police, he was cleared to be a victim in the case and released a few days later. Chongnyon certainly knew of this fact but nevertheless spread calumnies against him in its newspaper and handbills widely in the Korean society.

On 18 April, three weeks prior to the scheduled Reunification Alliance rally, Chongnyon launched operations to obstruct the rally. The tactics employed were to defame Yi Kwang personally and even harm him physically. Telephones at the homes and offices of the Alliance leaders were inundated with organized threatening calls.

Finally, on 19 April, Chairman Yi Kwang filed a suit against Han Tok-su, Chongnyon chairman, and Yi Chong-no and Son Chin-hyong, president and chief editor of CHOSON SINBO respectively. Those Chongnyon leaders will be tried in a Japanese court on suspicion of libel sometime in the future.

And on 27 April, an unidentified man attempted to stab Chairman Yi Kwang on his way home. The knife, however, missed him and only his clothes were cut; the unidentified man fled in a getaway car.

It is not yet known whether the terrorist act was committed by Chongnyon or a North Korean operative or someone at their instigation. The incident is currently under investigation by the Japanese police.

Printed in the fifth issue of THE REUNIFICATION ALLIANCE dated 1 May are an article about a criminal suit filed with the Metropolitan Police Department against Han Tok-su and other Chongnyon officials.

Thus, the Reunification Alliance, striving to protect the interests of Koreans in Japan and seeking the reunification of the fatherland based on freedom and democracy, rose in unison for a successful rally in spite of such wily North Korean and Chongnyon interference. The rally thus turned out to be a success.

National Rally for Earlier, Peaceful Reunification

The rally for expediting reunification was held in Ikebukuro, Tokyo on 9 May under the auspices of the Reunification Alliance. The presidium was made up by Chairman Yi Kwang, First Vice Chairman Yim Song-koeng, Vice Chairman Choe Chang-hwan, and Advisers Choe Yong-yon and Pak Pyong- chik. Seated on the platform behind the podium were members of Standing Committee and more than 10 other officials of the Reunification Alliance. There were also more than 30 guests behind members of the presidium. Among them were Ho Chin, vice chairman of the Association of Koryo Nationals in the USSR, who came from the Soviet Union; Kim Chang-sun, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Institute of North Korea Studies in Seoul; and Jiro Iinuma, professor emeritus of Kyoto University. Seven of the guests came from South Korea.

Hanging on the wall behind the platform were the flag of the Reunification Alliance and rally slogans. Also gathered in the community center were 600 participants and newspaper and radio reporters. They all came to attend the rally despite the fact that Chongnyon had placed its functionaries on various spots in front of the Toshima Community Center in an attempt to disrupt the rally by persuading would-be participants to change their minds and go home. The determined compatriots after all rejected Chongnyon's machinations with their own deeds.

First, Vice Chairman Choe Chang-hwan delivered a progress report summing up events that led to the creation of the Reunification Alliance and its efforts for expediting reunification and stating that the Kim Il-song regime must be overthrown. Then, First Vice Chairman Yim Song-koeng in his state-of-the-alliance address cited the cases of the Soviet Union and East Europe, stressing the inevitability of change. Compatriots under Chongnyon have turned against the Kim Il-song dictatorship since 1974, he said, noting the justness of the struggle of the Reunification Alliance.

Chairman Yi Kwang in his report said that the start of the Japan-North Korea normalization talks brought the interests of Koreans in Japan to face a grave new threat from North Korea. He discussed in detail the North Korean attempt to usurp Korean residents' assets in Japan and other issues. In conclusion, he referred to the birth of a preparatory committee for an anti-Kim Il-song government within the North Korean establishment, revealing that members of the committee had sent him a congratulatory message for the rally.

Ho Chin, speaking as a guest, said that the forming of the Reunification Alliance was timely for the sake of the democratic reunification of the fatherland. Kim Chang-sun stated that the reunification to be attained should be one that respects the dignity of man. Jiro Iinuma urged North-South reconciliation, saying that criticism is welcome but not accusations against each other.

The rally concluded without incident with three cheers of "Long Live!" Questions at a press conference that followed focused on the message from the North Korean preparatory committee for an anti-Kim provisional government.

The chairman explained that the committee asked the Reunification Alliance to pick seven persons to sit on it on behalf of compatriots in Japan. The committee made the request, he added, because it had been reading THE REUNIFICATION ALLIANCE, the organ, from the first issue.

I then read the message. It reflected the committee's resolution to make every possible effort for an anti-Kim Il-song government. KBS and MBC reported it in the evening newscasts the same day and many others did the same.

The success of the rally and the subsequent press conference were historic events to be long remembered in the movement of Korean compatriots in Japan.

Future Prospects

The creation and developments of the Reunification Alliance and the success of the rally in spite of all the subversive activities against the Alliance by North Korea, Chongnyon and the "dark forces" gave us even brighter prospects of the future.

The Reunification Alliance precisely reflects the flow of the times that the reform against the socialist system that originated in the Soviet Union and East Europe will surely reach the northern half of the Korean peninsula.

Furthermore, the Reunification Alliance is dedicated to the defense of the genuine interests of compatriots in Japan as their self-reliant mass organization which—unlike Chongnyon or the KRA—is free of "aid" from North Korea or the ROK.

Rallying around the Reunification Alliance now are a large number of compatriots in Japan. Intellectuals are also making major contributions to the Alliance in theoretical areas. Also, people are beginning to voluntarily contribute money to the Alliance's cause, in addition to membership and organ subscription fees.

The future of the Reunification Alliance, which is dedicated to realizing a free, democratic society both in Japan and the Korean peninsula and, by doing so, to build happiness in a reunited nation, is very bright.

Envoy To Visit Tokyo; Discuss DPRK, USSR

SK2308071091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0528 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha will visit Japan next week to discuss Tokyo-Pyongyang relations and developments in Moscow following the abortive coup there, the Foreign Ministry said Friday.

He will meet with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada and Parliamentary Vice Foreign Minister Muneo Suzuki.

Yu's Aug. 26-29 visit immediately precedes the Aug. 30-31 Tokyo-Pyongyang talks on diplomatic normalization in Beijing and is a revival of what used to be annual exchange tours between the vice foreign ministers of the two countries. The exchanges were suspended three years ago.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry invited Yu and requested that he visit on a specific date, according to Ministry officials.

Yu is expected to tell Tokyo that Seoul's position is that before it normalizes relations with North Korea there should be meaningful progress in inter-Korean dialogue, North Korea should unconditionally sign the nuclear safeguards accord, and Japan should withhold economic aid to North Korea.

Yu will also discuss cooperative measures to press Pyongyang to sign the safeguards accord and open its society, they said.

Russian Republic Hopes for Closer Ties

SK2308012691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0032 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 23 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Russian Republic values its economic exchanges with South Korea and wants closer bilateral relations, the republic's vice foreign minister said Thursday.

The Soviet Union will be reborn from the failed coup and that Russia will assume a central role, George Kunadze predicted after receiving a message from Korean President No Tae-u. The message, addressed to Russian President Boris Yeltsin, was delivered by Yi Won-yong, minister at the Korean Embassy here.

Yeltsin, who played the pivotal role in quelling the coup will similarly assume an important role in and out of the country, the vice foreign minister said.

It was said that Yeltsin expressed his hope to visit South Korea while campaigning for the Russian presidency and afterward. Officials at the Foreign Ministry said Korea was most likely to be included in Yeltsin's first foreign tour, which may be toward the end of this year or early next year.

Reaction to Soviet Situation Criticized

SK2308021991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] Being preoccupied with the possibility that the Soviet coup might succeed, the government failed to act properly.

Breaking its silence, the government's first reaction came about only a few hours before the coup's collapse on Wednesday.

More surprising is the fact it did not point out the unconstitutionality, much less condemn the coup.

Released in the name of Information Minister Choe Chang-yun, the statement said it is hoped that "the state of the affairs in the Soviet Union would be normalized as quickly as possible in a peaceful manner without violence or bloodshed."

The meek statement is in striking contrast with the tough condemnation by the United States, Japan, and EC members—all close allies of Korea.

Choe's statement is indicative of the opportunistic attitude of checking in what direction the wind is blowing.

No matter what direction the coup would take, which is illegal from every point of view, it should be condemned.

But the government failed to do so. It did only after it was over.

Only in Choe's second statement yesterday, was the word "illegal" used in "welcoming the quick frustration of the illegal attempt to interrupt the constitutional government."

President No Tae-u also made a special comment, hailing the "collapse of the coup against Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as a monumemtal victory for the Soviet people."

President No, who built up a personal friendship with Gorbachev through his three summits with him, may feel sorry for his failure to promptly denounce the attempt to seize power.

For the government side, it has its own story. President No led a series of meetings to discuss the crisis. But, how can the government go straight to the public, citing complicated national interests.

A government official said it is fortunate the government made its official statement, although it was not a satisfactory one prior to the coup's failure.

Firms To Accelerate Projects in Siberia

SK2308030491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—With the failure of the Moscow coup, South Korean companies will accelerate their joint- venture projects to develop mineral resources in the Soviet Union, industry sources said Friday.

The Daewoo, Samsung and Lucky-Goldstar Groups and the Hyundai Group's Resources Development Co. plan to sign contracts with Daldologia, a state-run affiliate of the Geology Ministry, to develop a tin mine in Pravourmi, Khabarovsk, in October.

The partners initialed contracts in June and are waiting for approval from their respective governments.

Hyundai and Daewoo, which are working on joint development of a coal mine in Urgal, Khabarovsk, will expedite negotiations with their Soviet counterparts and make a final decision on whether to participate in the project at an early date, the sources said.

A team from Hyundai, Daewoo, Lucky-Goldstar and Korea Mining Corp. will visit the Soviet Union in September to look into the development of a copper mine in Udakan, eastern Siberia.

Dongwon Consolidated Coal Mine Development Corp. plans to resume negotiations on a joint venture project to develop an oil field on Sakhalin Island, and Hyundai Resources and another firm will decided whether to participate in the development of natural gas on the continental shelf off Sakhalin.

Shipment of Consumer Goods to USSR Viewed

SK2308040391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0207 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea may ship the first consumer goods bought with tied loans to the Soviet Union next week, Trade and Industry Ministry sources said Friday.

The goods would leave as soon as the procedures, such as opening letters of credit, were completed, they said.

The two governments might discuss the final list of consumer goods to be shipped this year if a working-level delegation from the Soviet Ministry of External Economy arrived by the end of next week, the sources said.

They might also discuss 500 million U.S. dollars of Korean exports to the Soviet Union next year.

Korea announced in January that it would extend 3 billion dollars in economic aid to the Soviet Union—1 billion dollars of bank loans, 1.5 billion dollars of tied loans for consumer goods and 500 million dollars of credits for plant exports.

Korean firms had reported plans to sell 350 million dollars of goods to the Soviet Union as of Friday and contracts had been signed for 150 million dollars worth, the sources said.

The government had planned to offer 800 million dollars in tied loans this year, but only 500 million dollars is likely to be executed due to slow progress in contract signing and procedural delays.

Maritime Transport Accord With Soviets 'Likely'

SK2308060691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0441 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union are likely to sign an agreement on maritime transportation early next year, shipping sources said Friday.

The Korea Maritime and Port Administration [KMPA] will review a draft sent by the Soviets and consult with the Korean shipowners' association. There are likely to be some difficulties because KMPA objects to a provision on tripartite transport that would allow ships to go to the third countries, they said.

Korea is concerned that if it accepts the Soviet provision it may suffer as Soviet traders could ship Korean goods to a third country and dump them there, the sources said.

"With improvement of the Soviet situation, the Soviet Union seems to accept our demands and the agreement can be concluded by early next year," one of the anonymous sources said.

The agreement is expected to include most-favored-nation treatment and positive support for consular services for crews.

Immigration Limits Shore Time for Soviet Sailors

SK2308021591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 23 Aug 91 p 3

[Text] Pusan—The Pusan Immigration Office Wednesday shortened landing permit for Soviet sailors from a maximum of 15 days to five to help prevent assylum bids during their stay in the port.

Seven Soviet ships are under repairs here and nine others are in port unloading cargoes. Soviet crewmembers of those vessels total 630.

Soviet Economic Delegation Due for Talks 30 Aug

SK2308100491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0933 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union will continue working-level talks next week on Moscow's purchase of Korean consumer goods and raw materials with an 800 million-U.S.-dollar tied loan from Seoul.

A seven-member delegation led by A. I. Karmazin, first deputy resources minister, will arrive Aug. 30 for talks with officials from the Trade and Industry Ministry.

The two teams will finalize how much of five items, including sports shoes, parts for video cassette recorders and microwave ovens and toluene di-isocianate, the Soviet Union will buy.

They will select Korean exporters for items newly requested such as fabrics and containers.

Korean exporters and Soviet importers have concluded contracts for 18 items worth 150 million dollars so far this year.

Shipment will begin after loan formalities are completed by the Export and Import Bank of Korea and the Soviet external economic bank.

In working-level talks in May, the two sides confirmed 29 items Moscow will purchase and decided to discuss five others further.

Plans Cancelled for Singapore, Thailand Visit

SK2308012591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0013 GMT 23 aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling-Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), canceled his plans to visit Singapore and Thailand after President No Tae-u's visit to the United Nations in late September, DLP floor leader Kim Chong-ho said Friday.

Kim also skipped plans to meet with Koreans residing in the United States while No goes to Mexico after his address at the the world body, considering the upcoming regular National Assembly sitting, Kim Chong-ho said.

Kim will fly to Tokyo on Sept. 18 in prior to No's departure for New York to meet with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and then go to New York two days later to hear President No Tae-u address the U.N. General Assembly.

Opposition Party Replaces Key Posts

SK2308035691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0201 GMT 23 aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—President Kim Tae-chung of the main opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) named Kim won-ki, 54, secretary-general, Ho Kyong-man, 53, floor leader and Yu chun-sang, 49, chairman of the Policy Committee Friday.

Kim, Ho, and Yu replace Kim Pong-ho, Kim Yong-pae and Cho Se-hyong, respectively.

Yi Kil-chae, chief of external cooperation, was named head of the Political Research Institute. O Chung-il, a member of the Party Affairs Committee, replaced Yi. Yu Chong-kun was made head of public relations. Ho man-ki, head of the Disciplinary Committee, was retained.

Also retained were Yi Sang-su, chief of the Human Rights Committee, Cho Sun-sung, chairman of the International Committee, Cho Seung-hyong, Kim Tae-chung's chief secretary, and party spokesman Pak Sang-chon.

Economic News Analysis on Potential for Inflation

SK2308095391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0730 GMT 23 Aug 91

["News analysis" by Ko Song-il: "Overheated Economy Threatens Inflation, External Deficit"—YONHAP headline]

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 23 (YONHAP)—The spectre of inflation raised its ugly head again Thursday [22 August] with the news that the South Korean economy is overheating due to a continuing construction boom and brisk consumer spending.

The Bank of Korea [BOK] reported that real gross national product grew 9.1 percent in the first half, but analysts say the central bank's figures do not accurately reflect true economic conditions, which they believe have changed drastically.

They note that since July export growth has slowed, imports keep soaring, the trade deficit is nearing 10 billion U.S. dollars and high consumer spending, despite its short-term benefits, is more likely to be a drag on the economy in the long run.

Exports in the second quarter were 13.8 percent higher than in the first quarter and 8.7 percent higher than in the same period last year. Manufacturing grew 7.5 percent in the first quarter and 8.1 percent in the second quarter. Construction growth was 15.4 percent, down 9.5 percentage points from a year earlier and down 7.3 percentage points from the first quarter.

BOK officials said the overheating in the second quarter was primarily due to expansion of exports, the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors and consumer spending, but since July the export growth rate has declined considerably and the cumulative trade deficit has swelled to 9.5 billion dollars.

Growth in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors in the second half will depend heavily on weather conditions, which are uncertain.

High GNP [Gross National Product] growth in the first half was offset by the threat to the balance of payments of increased imports and investment to meet the growing domestic demand.

Investment and imports have risen faster than national savings since last year, widening the external deficit. BOK officials fear real GNP growth in excess of potential growth will worsen inflation and the external deficit.

An advisory report by the International Monetary Fund [IMF] in July, when a mission visited Seoul, said the principal macroeconomic indicators—output growth above the growth of productive potential, high inflation and the external deficit—all called for policies to restrain the growth of domestic demand.

IMF advised the government not to invest except in social infrastructure, companies to reduce imports of luxuries, and consumers to be more frugal.

Korean Telecom, DACOM Sign on for Cable

SK2008123691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0849 GMT 20 Aug 91

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 20 (YONHAP)—Korea Telecom and Data Communications Corp. (DACOM) said Tuesday they recently and individually signed construction and maintenance agreements for the Asia Pacific cable project, which will link Japan and Singapore with submarine fiber optic cables.

Korea Telecom contributed 4 million U.S. dollars and DACOM 900,000 dollars of the 332 million dollars it will cost to lay the 7,520-kilometer-long cable from Miura in Japan to Singapore via Taiwan, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

Other investors are America Telecommunications and Telephone Co., Kokusai Denshin Denwa Co. of Japan and 35 other firms from 25 countries. Fujitsu Co. of Japan has control over the construction, which it is to finish by July 1993.

Of a total cable capacity of 7,560 MAUOs (minimum assignable unit ownerships), Korea Telecom will take 450 MAUOs and DACOM 150 MAUOs.

Korea Telecom also participated in the Hong Kong-Japan-Korea [H-J-K] fiber optic cable line, the Guam-Philippines-Taiwan line and the Asian optical fiber submarine cable network.

DACOM, which intends to enter the international telephone business in December, has 270 MAUOs of the H-J-K line and 210 MAUOs of the North Pacific cable.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister on Bush Rejection of GSP Petition

BK2308092191 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0818 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Aug 23 (BERNAMA-ECOANA)—The Bush administration has rejected a petition against GSP [Generalized System of Preferences] status for Malaysia on the basis of alleged Malaysian violation of workers' rights, International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz said.

It has also rejected a petition on the status of GSP privileges for Malaysian plywood by United States and foreign parties, she told newsmen here Thursday.

Rafidah said: The rejection of these petitions shows there are prospects of Malaysia retaining its duty-free benefits under the U.S. GSP programme for quite some time.

The International Labour Rights Education and Research Fund (ILRERF) submitted in June a petition against Malaysia, alleging that it had not complied with international standards on workers' rights.

The petition on Malaysian plywood was initiated by Plywood Tropics U.S.A. Incorporation, an importer of Indonesian plywood, the Indonesian Wood Panel Association and the Indonesian Government, which argued that Malaysia had unfairly gained advantage over Indonesia in plywood exports to the U.S. as a result of the U.S. Government's Andean trade initiative.

However, Rafidah said the U.S. Department of Commerce had approved the petition on local vulcanised rubber thread and cord, made by the North American Rubber Thread Company Incorporation which accused the Malaysian product of crippling the American industry, and this petition would now be the subject of further review.

Sabah's Pairin Hopes for Better Ties

BK2208093691 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Aug 91 p 5

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Sun.—Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitigan said the differences between Sabah and Kuala Lumpur were not fundamental.

He said he was aware that there were problems inherent in Federal-State relations, but it was never his intention to antagonise Federal leaders.

"We do not harbour enmity towards the Federal leadership. Neither do we like to be regarded as enemies," Datuk Pairin wrote in a forward to a new book containing a collection of his speeches between 1985 and 1990.

The book entitled "The Making of a Malaysian" was launched by the Yang di-Pertua Negeri [State Governor] Tun Haji Mohamed Said Keruak last night [18 Aug], at a dinner held to mark Datuk Pairin's 51st birthday.

"I believe that the State should feel free to present its views and legitimate demands to Federal leaders or to tell them what Federal actions or inactions were hurting the State.

"If we are not happy about certain things, for instance our disproportionately small share of oil revenue, the Federal Government's handling of the massive influx of aliens to Sabah, we must let the Federal Government know we are not happy.

"We would like to improve relations but reconciliation is a two-way process. Sincerity is the key to healing..."

Defense Minister on Cooperation With Bangladesh

BK2308091391 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] The Malaysian Armed Forces will recruit 10 doctors from Bangladesh to help ease the shortage of military medical officers.

Defense Minister Datuk Sri Mohamed Najib Tun Razak, in announcing this, said the military were short of about 60 doctors. A team of Armed Forces officers will be visiting Bangladesh next month to interview the candidates.

Datuk Sri Najib told reporters this after receiving Bangladesh's chief of army staff, Lieutenant General Mohammad Nuruddin Khan, in Kuala Lumpur today.

Datuk Sri Najib also said the Bangladeshi Army was interested in sending its personnel for commando training at the Special Warfare Training Center in Melaka. Details of the training program will be finalized by the officials of both armed forces.

Lt. Gen. Mohammad Nuruddin ended his six-day official visit today.

Minister Wants Revival of Police Posts

BK2208095891 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Aug 91 p 7

[Text] Johor Baru, Sun.—Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat today called for the re-settinng up of police posts in coastal villages in Gelang Patah near here to enhance security.

He said such posts would also improve dissemination of information especially in relation to security as the areas were considered "sensitive" to issues affecting bilateral relations between Malaysia and Singapore.

Presently there was only one police post in Kampung Tanjung Kupang while the ones in Kampung Pandas, Kampung Tebing Runtuh and Kampung Sungai Melayu were closed down last year, he said.

Speaking to reporters after a dialogue with district office officials here, he said the not-easily-accessable areas had been left behind in development compared to other areas in Johor. Although the kampongs were exposed to various problems, information on them could not reach the Government fast to facilitate immediate follow up action, he said.

Datuk Mohamed said there was a need for the marine police and customs to do regular patrols in the Tebrau Straits.

Singapore

Party Secures Majority; 41 Seats Uncontested

BK2308080691 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Aug 91 p 1

[By Han Fook Kwang]

[Text] The People's Action Party [PAP] was returned to power by the narrowest of margins when nominations for the Aug 31 general election closed yesterday.

It was declared the winner in 41 of the 81 seats to be contested, the minimum number of walkovers it needed to form he next government.

The 40 seats up for contest are split equally, 20 in single seat wards and the rest in five of the 15 four-member Group Representation Constituencies.

This is the first time since 1968 that Singaporeans know for sure that the PAP will form the government even before they cast their votes.

It is a marked departure from the five previous elections, particularly the last one in 1988, when the opposition posted a challenge in 70 of the 81 seats.

How this will affect the campaign over the next nine days, the first to be fought by Mr. Goh Chok Tong as Prime Minister, remains to be seen.

But he made it plain yesterday that as far as the PAP was concerned nothing had changed.

He said that he had made himself the issue by calling an early election so that he could get a clear endorsement from the people.

And, he stressed, he remained the central issue, despite the PAP's being returned to power on Nomination Day itself.

Speaking at a press conference at the PAP headquarters he said:

"I called this election, and I remain the issue in the constituencies to be contested.

"I am campaigning on the basis that my style of open, consultative government is the right one."

It was a theme that he touched on several times during the hour-long press conference.

When asked how he would respond to the opposition's tactic of limiting the fight to a few seats, making it in effect a by-election, he replied:

"You can call it a by-election, the fact remains that I am the issue.

"My judgement is being now put to the test."

The prime minister had one other message to voters who might be swayed by the opposition's line: do not get sidetracked by it.

He argued that even though the PAP was returned to power, the issues had not changed.

These were his style of government and the programmes he had initiated: Edusave, Medifund, the Open University and an assistance plan to help the poor own their homes.

As for the opposition parties, he called on them to state their stand: Were they against his open and consultative style?

Were they against Edusave, Medifund and the Open University?

"You want to fight this election to get into Parliament as opposition, then they should be asked this question: If you get into Parliament, what are you going to fight for?" he asked.

On what he would regard as a clear mandate from the people, Mr. Goh would not want to be pinned down to a particular percentage of votes for the PAP, saying that it depended on what the people themselves felt was a clear mandate.

Speaking for himself, he said he would be looking for an improvement over the 1988 result, which was 63.2 percent of the valid votes for the PAP.

He also added that now that the PAP had won the mandate to govern, he was looking for an endorsement of his style and policies.

The PAP line-up at the conference--the others being Deputy Prime Ministers Ong Teng Cheong and Lee Hsien Loong, Mr. Wong Kan Seng, and BG [Brigadier General] George Yeo—was in a sombre mood yesterday.

But what had troubled them was not the coming election, as Mr. Goh explained, but the continuing crisis in the Soviet Union.

He noted that had the coup which ousted Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev happened earlier, he would have added to the party's slogan, "Go for more good years", the words "with stability and security".

Indeed, the change was made soon after.

Was he disappointed that more seats had not been contested?

Mr. Goh replied that he would have preferred a wider contest so that more of the 11 PAP newcomers fielded could be put through their paces.

But he was quick to point out that the party would not take the election for granted and would fight for every seat.

Yesterday's outcome depended on how many candidates the main opposition party, the Workers' Party [WP], would field, a number that it kept secret right until the hour that nominations opened.

In the event, it fielded 13, the largest opposition slate, all of whom were introduced at a press conference chaired by WP leader J.B. Jeyaretnam. But the number is drastically down from the 32 it fielded in 1988.

Mr. Jeyaretnam said that the party would campaign on the theme "Power to the People" and fight on one issue: whether the early election was necessary.

At the Singapore Democratic Party's [SDP's] press conference, its leader, Mr. Chiam See Tong, described yesterday's outcome as "simply beautiful", saying that it showed that his party had been successful in limiting the fight, and turning the election into, in effect, a by-election.

The SDP fielded nine candidates all in single wards, half the slate it had in 1988.

The rest of the opposition field consists of eight candidates from the National Solidarity Party, four each from the PKMS [Singapore Malay National Organization] and the Singapore Justice Party, and seven independents.

All in all, there are 45 opposition candidates, much fewer than the 75 fielded in 1988.

The mood at the 10 nomination centres yesterday was one of friendly competition, with supporters rooting for their candidates without apparent acrimony.

But there was also an air of expectancy, as parties, including the PAP, made surprise tactical switches, moving incumbent MPs [members of parliament] out of their constituencies to meet opposition challenges in other wards.

It remains to be seen whether these moves will pay off, as the parties begin their battle for the hearts and minds of Singaporeans over the next nine days.

Deputy Premier Opens ASEAN Meeting

BK2208052691 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0415 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Singapore, Aug 22 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The cooperative arrangement between Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore in the Growth Triangle could serve as a model for similar ventures among other ASEAN countries.

Such cooperative projects, including the proposed northern Growth Triangle encompassing North Sumatera, Pulau Pinang (Malaysia), and South Thailand should be encouraged even if not all ASEAN members took part in them.

"They will generate more wealth, expand existing markets, and create new ones," Deputy Prime Minister Brig. Gen. (Res) Lee Hsien Loong said when opening the 10th meeting of the ASEAN economic ministers on energy cooperation here Thursday.

He said if there were many such overlapping projects, the reality of ASEAN economic cooperation would be strengthened and at the same time minimise the need for cumbersome bureaucratic coordination and negotiation on every single project.

"This is not a zero-sum game, where any benefit to one partner must be at the expense of others," he added.

Gen. Lee said ASEAN needed to go beyond promoting regional stability to more substantive economic cooperation since the global business environment had become increasingly competitive.

"Many countries have taken protectionist measures to limit access to their domestic markets. ASEAN members need to cooperate more closely economically instead of venturing forth individually into an unpredictable and possibly hostile world," he added.

He said up till now, ASEAN's achievements in terms of economic cooperation had been modest as the original impetus for its formation was a political, not an economic one.

ASEAN had developed a whole series of formal schemes of economic cooperation, including a preferential trading arrangement (PTA) to liberalise intra-ASEAN trade.

"But the tangible benefits so far have been limited. Progress on joint industrial projects has also been slow since consensus of all six members had to be reached before any project could be implemented," he added.

He said lack of full consensus should not delay bilateral or multilateral projects which did not involve all ASEAN members. In a dynamic competitive environment, quick decisions and project turnaround times were vital.

"By cooperating with one another, ASEAN members, whether producers or suppliers, can diversify their dependence and utilise scarce energy resources more efficiently and reduce their vulnerability," he said.

Cambodia

Hor Namhong Interviewed on Settlement Prospects

BK2208152991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Hor Namhong interview with Italian reporter Giorgio Fabretti in Phnom Penh; dated 16 August—read by announcers]

[Text] [Fabretti] What is your view on sovereignty? What does this sovereignty mean in reality?

[Hor Namhong] For us, sovereignty means full independence. For the State of Cambodia, there should not be any other state authorities, organizations, or individuals apart from the institutions representing Cambodia's sovereignty. This is the view on Cambodia's sovereignty.

In practice, we have set up the Supreme National Council [SNC] since September 1990 in Jakarta. The SNC represents Cambodia's sovereignty in the transitional period until the establishment of a new government. Therefore, there should not be any individuals or organizations above the SNC. To be more specific, if the special representative of the UN Secretary General has to supervise the implementation of the Paris agreement and the general elections in Cambodia in the transitional period, this representative should not be above the SNC. Every decision of the SNC should be respected because this body represents Cambodia's sovereignty.

[Fabretti] I think that the Cambodian situation has made progress and is more advanced that the five major countries' plan. Do you think that this plan should be amended to make it more realistic?

[Hor Namhong] At the meeting in Beijing on 16 and 17 July, the representatives of the UN Secretary and the Paris conference cochairmen clearly said this. When the 26 November 1990 draft agreement was prepared, it was in a different circumstance, as you have noted. It was the time when Cambodian parties still disagreed with one another and could not reach any agreement to solve the problem while the SNC was not yet functional. This is a new situation now. This was the statement by the representatives of the UN secretary and the Paris conference cochairmen in Beijing at the SNC meeting.

Therefore, if Cambodian parties can agree among themselves and reach an agreement, and if the SNC made a decision, this should be respected. This comes back to your first question on the respect for Cambodia's sovereignty.

[Fabretti] Previously, the Pol Pot group always opposes the word genocide. Do you think now it can accept the term catastrophe of the past to replace the word genocide?

[Hor Namhong] The whole world, including European countries, the United States, Canada, and all political circles (?the world over) have recognized that the Pol Pot group has carried out genocidal activities or genocide of its own race. Along with this, if the Pol Pot group itself admitted that this is so, it would mean that it will be tried at a national or international court in accordance with the UN convention of 1948 concerning the prevention and condemnation of genocidal crimes. In view of this convention, this group would be tried. However, the Pol Pot group rejected the use of the term "genocide" in an agreement because it wants to avoid being tried.

Faced with such a situation, what should we do? Our answer is that we have to end the war and achieve national reconciliation to rebuild the country because the Cambodian people have greatly suffered, particularly under the Pol Pot regime. Therefore, the State of Cambodia Government has to make every effort to achieve a quick political solution. We are ready to make more concessions at the forthcoming meeting in Phatthaya in order to achieve a definitive global solution. In whatever circumstance, this solution should not allow the return of the catastrophe of the past. We want a solution. We want national reconciliation. However, this political solution should not provide an opportunity for the catastrophe of the past to return. This is why we will discuss the use of words. Should we use genocide or any other words? We will closely examine this and also what to do to achieve a solution, on the one hand, and on the other, to prevent the return of the Pol Pot regime.

[Fabretti] On the military issue. Will the five permanent members and the Pol Pot group agree to the cantonment of troops?

[Hor Namhong] In accordance with the draft agreement, there are three steps on the military issue after the cease-fire.

1. Gathering of troops;

2. Putting weapons and ammunition under UN control, more specifically the control of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia;

3. Demobilization of troops.

These steps should be implemented before elections. However, this military aspect has not yet been resolved. We will discuss it in Phatthaya. What we accept is the gathering of troops, weapons, and ammunition under the permanent control of the United Nations. We think that this is a sufficient measure to ensure security and stability during elections.

We are not forcing people to accept our view. This should be discussed. We are ready to discuss. Our stance is flexible. However, others should also not force us to accept their views. The concession we cannot make is the respect for Cambodia's sovereignty, which is in conformity with the UN Charter and international law.

[Fabretti] In your government's framework, do you consider Cambodia as a socialist country?

[Hor Namhong] Whatever the label foreigners have given us, our country is one with a 100 percent market economy. In the future, there will be a multiparty system in conformity with reality when there is an election within the framework of a global solution.

[Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0124 GMT on 23 August carries a repeat of Hor Namhong's interview. This version adds the following:

[Fabretti] In a market economy, are there inequalities?

[Hor Namhong] For us, there is no chose. Either state control with its consequences, namely stagnation, or liberalization with inequalities. However, even in the richest capitalist countries, there are inequalities, but at least this creates a spirit of enterprise and individual initiative. All this stimulates dynamism and improves living standards in general. In any case, egalitarianism is impossible.]

[Fabretti] What is your prediction on the prospect of peace in Cambodia?

[Hor Namhong] Everything will be moving fast from now to the end of this year. I am optimistic about the possibility of convening the international conference in Paris and about the signing of a global solution.

[Fabretti] On the diplomatic front, what are the countries that will first open their embassies?

[Hor Namhong] The first countries will be France, Thailand, Australia, and Japan. Other countries would follow. North Korea will send only technicians. France, Australia, and Japan have already dispatched their technical groups.

[The SPK French version concludes at this point, deleting reference to the United States and Italy.]

[Fabretti] What about the United States?

[Hor Namhong] Only a low level diplomat.

[Fabretti] What is your view?

[Hor Namhong] This is their right. I do not want to try to understand this.

[Fabretti] What about Italy?

[Hor Namhong] Italy is a bit far away, economically, geographically, and politically.

Hun Sen Asks Sihanouk To Appeal for Aid

BK2208142991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Message from Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers and vice chairman of the Committee for the Search of Aid for the Rehabilitation and Socioeconomic Development of the State of Cambodia, to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk; dated 22 August, read by announcer]

[Text] Respected samdech:

I am very honored and sad to inform you that the heavy rainfall over the past few days have caused serious floods in Kompong Speu, Takeo, Kampot, and Kandal Provinces, as well as in a number of areas around Phnom Penh City. These floods have caused great damages, estimated at thousands of millions of riel, and destroyed tens of thousands of houses, tens of thousands of hectares of paddy, and caused serious damage to National Routes 2, 3, and 4, bridges, and a number of railroad tracks.

Faced with this unprecedented and serious disaster in the country, our people would be glad and relieved if the respected samdech, as chairman of the Committee for the Search of Aid for the Rehabilitation and Socioeconomic Development of the State of Cambodia, could make an appeal for international aid for our unfortunate people who are victims of this disaster.

Respected samdech, please accept my high consideration.

Hor Namhong Meets Flood Disaster Organizations

BK2208134591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] On the morning of 22 August, Comrade Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, held a meeting with representatives of the international and non-governmental humanitarian organizations to inform them of a severe natural flood disaster which has taken place in Kompong Speu, Kampot, Takeo, and Kandal Provinces and the areas near Phnom Penh.

The comrade said that this disaster has caused some losses in human life and damaged tens of thousands of hectares of rice crop.

According to preliminary statistics, about 200 families of people in Kandal Province alone became homeless. Concerning the other provinces, the provincial authorities and ministries concerned are seeking ways to cope with this disaster. The authorities have not yet been able to assess the damages exactly.

The comrade minister stressed that Routes 2, 3, and 4 and many railroads and bridges in Kampot, Takeo, and Kompong Speu Provinces were damaged.

On behalf of the government, the comrade also appealed for all organizations to give humanitarian aid to the victims of this huge flooding.

The World Food Program has promised to provide emergency aid of 1,000 metric tons of rice.

In conclusion, the comrade minister invited these organizations to inspect the situation in these flood-ravaged provinces.

The comrade expressed the hope that these organizations would join in helping victims of this natural disaster.

The comrade minister also expressed sincere thanks to these organizations.

Further on Floods

BK2308125791 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1108 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 23—Torrential rains on August 19-20 caused great losses of human lives and property in Kandal and Kompong Speu Provinces.

Eight districts of Kompong Speu Province, 50 km west of Phnom Penh, have been submerged by floods and 79,000 families in the region rendered homeless, reported the provincial authorities.

Great havoc has been made in the districts of Samraong Tong and Phnum Sruoch and the provincial town of Kompong Speu.

Floods which descended from 'Aoral' mountain following heavy rains on the highland have destroyed 5,000 litres of fuel, 40 [metric] tons of paddy, two bridges near the provincial town of Kompong Speu and portions of Highway 4, the report said.

Some sluices on Highway 3 were also wrecked and traffic on the road interrupted.

Tens of thousands of hectares of crops in Kompong Speu Province were submerged.

The report said the torrents of flood have threatened Phnom Penh's suburban district of Dangkao and the districts of Phnum Penh and Kandal Stoeng in Kandal and the districts of Tram Kak and Bati in Takeo.

The floods had not (not) receded yet by August 22 and havoc is expected for the southern parts of Highways 3 and 4.

Rescuers have used six launches in addition to several private boats to save the drowning people in Kompong Speu.

The Cambodian Red Cross has provided the victims with 200 [metric] tons of husked rice.

Kompong Speu Province had been affected by floods three times since the 50's, one in 1956 and the other two in 1973 and 1984, according to a report of the weather bureau in Phnom Penh.

UN Team Arrives, Meets Defense Officials

BK2308125291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1132 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 23—A United Nations mission arrived here this morning to study the modalities of controlling the unlimited cease-fire in Cambodia. The 12-member team led by Major General Timothy Dibuama of Ghana, military adviser to the secretry general of the United Nations, had talks this morning with officials of the Defence Ministry on the program of its mission in the country.

According to an AFP dispatch on August 19, Dibuama, who met the four warring factions last May after they had agreed to a temporary cease-fire, said in Bangkok that he was hoping to gather much more information this time.

"We hope to see more than last time and have very detailed discussions with the factions," he said.

"We are here to look at the modalities of controlling the cease- fire and the number of UN personnel needed to monitor it," Dibuama said.

This was the second mission led by Major-General Dibuama to Cambodia this year, the first one which comprised three members, took place from May 14-17.

SPK Reports Arrival of U.S. Senator Kerry

BK2208130091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1124 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 22—A U.S. delegation led by Senator John F. Kerry arrived here on Wednesday for a three-day visit to Cambodia.

John F. Kerry, who is also president of the Committee for the Search of American Servicemen Missing in Action (MIA) in the Indochina war, would meet with senior Cambodian officials.

This was the second visit made by the U.S. senator this year. The first one took place in May.

Communique Issued on Opposition Attacks

BK2308124891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1124 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 23—The opposition factions launched 19 attacks against government positions in three provinces from August 11-16, according to a Defense Ministry communique.

The communique said during those days, troops of the Pol Pot, Sihanouk and Son Sann factions made seven shellings, three ground attacks, four looting raids and five troop dispatches to various areas.

It said about 430 troops of Pol Pot Divisions 519 and 802 and of the Sihanouk and Son Sann factions fired some 170 shells in their attacks on government posts and robbed 17,000 riel [Cambodian currency] from villagers in Banteay Meanchey Province, about 350km northwest of Phnom Penh.

Troops of Pol Pot Division 616 also sent four oxcarts of rockets into an area in Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province, in preparation for another attack, the communique added.

Vietnam's Vo Van Kiet Sends Thanks to Hun Sen

BK2208093791 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 21 Aug 91

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, recently received a message of thanks from Comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers. The message noted:

I sincerely thank you for your warm wishes on my nomination as chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers.

I am convinced that the bonds of close solidarity and harmonious cooperation between our two governments and peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia will further strengthen and develop.

May you enjoy good health and greater successes in carrying out your tasks.

Leaders Greet Newly Elected Lao Counterparts

BK2308073091 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0149 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 22 Aug (SPK)—Heng Samrin, general secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State of the State of Cambodia, sent his warm greetings in a message to Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP], on his election to the post of president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

In the message, General Secretary Heng Samrin said he was convinced that the Lao Government and people will achieve new successes in the construction of the country and for peace, independence, democracy, equality, and prosperity in conformity with the spirit of the Fifth LPRP Congress.

For his part, Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent his warm greetings to Khamtai Sipha-n?onection to the post of prime mini?ter of the LPDR.

The Cambodian leader noted that the bonds of close solidarity, fraternal friendship, and multiform cooperation between the two countries will develop fruitfully.

Son Sann Arrives in Bangkok, Meets Khieu Samphan

BK2208093991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] His Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], arrived in Bangkok on Wednesday to attend the SNC meeting to be held next week in Phatthaya.

Upon arrival at Don Muang Airport in Bangkok at 1230 yesterday, His Excellency Son Sann met with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Khieu Samphan, head of the Democratic Kampuchean faction.

On that occasion, His Excellency Son Sann did not make any comments to newsmen.

Meanwhile, in his reply to questions by newsmen there, Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said that the situation in the Soviet Union would not affect the Cambodian SNC meeting to be held next week in Phatthaya because it was just an internal affair of the Soviet Union, adding that the Soviet Union would certainly send a delegation to attend next week's meeting on Cambodia of the five big countries that are the UNSC [UN Security Council] permanent members.

Meanwhile, Mr. Khieu Samphan said that he believed that the dismantlement of all the Cambodian factions' armed forces and the handing over of the supervisory role to the United Nations would bring peace and stability to Cambodia. He stressed his faction's desire for the UN presence in Cambodia as soon as possible.

Khieu Samphan said that although the UN peace plan dated 28 August was good, he expected that there would be discussions so as to reach a compromise on some points for which amendment was called by some factions.

Sihanouk: U.S. Opposes Accepting UN Amendments

BK2208164491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1627 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Bangkok, Aug 22 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Thursday he hoped the warring Cambodian factions would be able to formulate a counterproposal to the United Nations' peace plan for Cambodia.

He said such a compromise proposal, to be worked out during next week's meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC), would result from the necessity to accommodate Phnom Penh's demands for amendments to the origional U.N. peace plan for dismantling rival armies.

The warring factions include two non-communist groups, the Marxist Khmer Rouge and the Vietnamese-backed Phnom Penh government. Phnom Penh was also worried about the extent of the organizational powers to be given to the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), he said.

The "joint counterproposal" will also determine the extent of governing powers to be given to the UNTAC during the interim period leading to general elections in Cambodia, he said.

The prince told reporters he believed the amendments would be accepted by all the permanent U.N. Security

Council members—Britain, China, France the Soviet Union—except for the United States.

Commenting on the United States' caution concerning such a procedure, he said "the remaining the gap is Uncle Sam. I hope they will understand, and I hope they will be flexible.

"There is a necessity for us in the SNC to acheive a compromise," he added. "We have to be realistic. The Khmer Rouge support the P-5 plan, but Mr. Hun Sen, whose government controls 80 percent of Cambodian territory, wants to amend a few paragraphs of the plan about the demobilization and regrouping of the armed forces of Cambodia."

The prince said he had met the Khmer Rouge for three hours, "and it seems they are more flexible, more willing to make the Phatthaya meeting a success."

Prince Sihanouk expressed the hope that all sides concerned would eventually accept the "compromise solution" to the peace plan.

"I know that China, the U.K. and France are willing to follow the Cambodian solution... Thailand, Vietnam and the Soviet Union also," he said.

The prince said that during the August 26-28 SNC meeting in Phatthaya he would try to "bridge the gap" separating the Khmer Rouge and Phnom Penh.

"We have to acheive compromise between these two different positions in order to be able to present to the Perm 5 representative our joint counterproposal," he said.

"This means we accept the U.N. peace plan, but with some amendments in order to bring some satisfaction to Hun Sen's group, because may I repeat that we cannot ignore the demand of the group which is the most important."

Indonesia

Officials React to Soviet President's Return

Suharto Welcomes Return

BK2308050691 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] President Suharto has welcomed the return of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev following the failure of a coup attempt led by Vice President Gennadiy Yanayev. Soviet Ambassador to Indonesia Valeriy Malygin disclosed Indonesia's stand after briefing President Suharto on the latest developments in his country at the latter's residence on Cendana Street, Jakarta last night. According to Valeriy Malygin, President Suharto conveyed greetings to President Gorbachev and hoped that Mr. Gorbachev could fully resume his duties. The ambassador said the head of state was confident that glasnost and perestroyka introduced by Gorbachev would be well implemented. Malygin said that the Soviet Government would continue efforts to ease international tension and promote international cooperation.

Alatas on Developments

BK2208133991 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Indonesia today expressed relief over the latest development in the Soviet Union—the restoration of President Mikhail Gorbachev to power.

Responding to a question from newsmen at Pancasila Building in Jakarta this morning, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said he is happy to acknowledge the maturity of the Soviet people in facing the recent turmoil and their acceptance of Gorbachev's policies of improvement through restructuring and openness.

He said Indonesia was hoping that the government and the people of the Soviet Union would soon overcome all the problems brought about by the unconstitutional coup against President Gorbachev.

According to Ali Alatas, due to the maturity of the Soviet leadership and politics, the coup could be crushed within a short period without much casualties, and thus bringing the situation in the country back to normalcy.

He said the return of President Gorbachev would further speed up efforts towards finding a solution to major world issues in which the Soviet Union had been involved such as the Middle East, Cambodia, and Afghanistan.

Further on Alatas Remarks

BK2308102091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0955 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 23 (OANA-ANTARA)—Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas said here on Friday that an advanced team of the Portuguese parliamentary delegation to Indonesia is expected to arrive in Indonesia in late September or early October this year.

Alatas told reporters at the House building that he had just reported the planned visit by the advanced team of the Portuguese paliamentary delegation to House Speaker M. Kharis Suhud.

The minister said that one of the Portuguese parliamentary delegation's schedules in Indonesia also include a visit to the country's youngest province of East Timor.

The former Portuguese-occupied province was integrated into Indonesia in 1976.

In reply to a question, Alatas said that the situation of the post-coup d'etat Soviet [Union] is multicomplex, particularly in the economic field.

But what is important for the international communities, the minister said is that the policies of Mikhail Gorbachev on the reduction of tension should be resumed.

It is expected that the Soviet Union's foreign policies would not undergo changes so that new ideas on the settlement of regional issues such as the Middle East conflicts would go on.

Alatas said that he could not predict what would happen in the Soviet Union after the coup d'etat ended, expressing his hope that the situation would return to normal after the legal and constitutional power was restored.

Dailies Welcome Gorbachev's Return

BK2308075691 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 23 Aug 91

[From the press review]

[Text] ANGKATAN BERSENJATA welcomes Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's return to power. Experience in Moscow proved that the people's power was very decisive. Thus, it is not surprising that the Soviet people are now very happy after they succeeded in defeating the coup leaders. According to ANGKATAN BERSENJATA, the happiness is also visible in several parts of the world where people prefer international security and peace.

In essence, another daily KOMPAS agrees with ANGKATAN BERSENJATA. Gorbachev's return to the Soviet leadership has at least now removed anxieties over a reemergence of the East-West cold-war threat against Europe, and an aggresive hardline regime. The daily hopes that the Soviet Union will resume its reforms for the welfare of its people and world peace as a whole.

Official, PRC Minister Discuss Cooperation

BK2308091791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0826 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 23 (ANTARA-ECOANA)—Chinese businessmen need to cooperate with Indonesian entrepreneurs in hi-tech businesses, construction, and other economic activities, says a Chinese minister.

"Indonesian and Chinese businessmen can exchange skills and form joint venture firms for operation in China, Indonesia, or in other Third World countries," Chinese Deputy Construction Minister Gan Zhijian said at a meeting with officials of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Kadin) here on Thursday.

China had established cooperation with Japan and the Soviet Union for the construction of sophisticated roads and factories, Zhijian said, adding that his country now had about 700,000 special design experts in these fields.

The Chinese minister said his country needed a lot of construction materials such as wood because China annually built houses on 800 million square metres of land for its people. He explained that earlier land in China belonged to the state so houses which were built were part of the efforts to improve the welfare of the people and they could not be sold to a third party. But the government, he added, was now allowing houses to be traded as a commodity along with the required land.

"Therefore, China is inviting foreign investors to build housing facilities which can be traded," the minister said, adding that there were about 3,500 real estate companies in China, mostly state-owned.

Meanwhile, Kadin Chairman Sotion Arjanggi explained that Indonesia welcomed the opportunity to establish cooperation between businessmen of the two countries. He said in Indonesia construction projects for roads, buildings, factories, and other facilities were open for mutually advantageous cooperation.

On the other hand, Indonesia also saw opportunities in Chinese projects for its businessmen, he observed. He urged the businessmen of both countries to make approaches to each other to pave the way for wider cooperation.

This way both sides could see what fields were open for cooperation, Arjanggi said.

Suharto Meets ROK National Assembly Speaker

BK2208100191 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] South Korea is confident that Indonesia will become a newly industrialized country in Asia because of the positive economic development in the country. Pak Jyun-kyu, speaker of the South Korean National Assembly, told newsmen after paying a courtesy call on President Suharto at Binagraha Presidential Office that his country would learn from Indonesia about the national leadership in addition to admiring the impressive national development here. Pak Jyun-kyu said that he was impressed by President Suharto's leadership, which has managed to bring the people's life to the present level.

On this occasion, the South Korean National Assembly speaker also conveyed warm greetings from South Korean President No Tae-u and hoped that President Suharto would visit South Korea. The South Korean people would be honored to receive the president as this would enable them to see one of the great Asian leaders.

Answering questions on the latest developments in the Soviet Union, Pak Jyun-kyu briefly said that he and President Suharto touched on the matter. The South Korean National Assembly speaker spoke of the need for Mikhail Gorbachev to return to power in the Soviet Union in order for concrete world peace to be achieved.

Paper Examines Discontent in Aceh Province

BK2208023191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Aug 91 p A12

[Article by Sonny Inbaraj entitled: "Fighting Terror With Terror in Aceh"]

[Text] Jaafar, an economics graduate from Syiah Kuala University in Bandar Aceh, demonstrates his frustration when he says he will soon make his way to the mountains, join the separatist movement, and take up arms to fight against Jakarta.

For over a year now, Jaafar (not his real name) has not been able to find a job, and his daily routine has been to drop into a warung kopi (coffee shop) in the heart of Bandar Aceh town and kill time sipping sweet black Acehnese coffee with his fellow unemployed colleagues.

Pointing to his friends, Jaafar says: "Look at us and you'll know how the young people in Aceh feel. We're now just depending on our parents for pocket-money. After spending four years in the university, we have become castaways in our own province."

Like many Acehnese, Jaafar's anti-Jakarta feelings are rooted in the socioeconomic imbalance existing in the province. There is a well-founded view that Aceh has been exploited for the well-being of Indonesia's 26 other provinces, and the uneven development in Aceh itself has served to fuel the demands for a separate Aceh state.

In the Acehnese town of Lhokseumawe, people feel that the province's oil, gas, marine resources and timber are being "milked" by the central government in Jakarta.

"I've sent numberous job applications to the industries in Lhokseumawe, but all I've got back are rejections. It seems they (the industries) are more interested in employing Javanese and other 'outsiders' rather than Acehnese," says Jaafar.

When high-technology industries came to Lhokseumawe in 1971 following the discovery of the Arun natural gas field, there were no technical schools in Aceh province to prepare young Acehnese for work in these projects.

This resulted in the skilled and managerial jobs going to people from Java and other regions, with the Acehnese only qualified to fill positions in heavy manual labour or as security guards, cleaners, gardeners and drivers.

Aceh is not a poor province by Indonesian standards. It is self-sufficient in rice and its provincial GDP ranks among Indonesia's highest. Industries in the province like Arun LNG [Liquid Natural Gas] plant, PT [Company Limited] Aceh ASEAN fertilizer project, PT Pupuk Iskandar Muda oil drill and PT Kertas Kraft paper and pulp plant have only contributed about Rps 150 million (US$77,000) to local development projects, with a major portion of their profits going into Jakarta's coffers.

According to Alfian Ibrahim, a statistician in Aceh's Department of Statistics in Bandar Aceh, 40 percent of Aceh's 3.4 million are poor and receive about 24.2 percent of the funds allocated to Aceh from Jakarta.

"The next 40 percent of Aceh's population are the middle class and receive 39 percent of the funds allocated to the province," said Alfian.

"The remaining 20 percent, or 680,000 Acehnese, are the upper middle class and receive 36 percent of the province's funds."

Governor of Aceh Ibrahim Hassan admitted in an interview with the SERAMBI INDONESIA daily that there was an imbalance in his province with a wide disparity between the rich and the poor.

"This socio-conomic imbalance also occurs in other provinces in Indonesia. It is only natural that this disparity exists in any developing society in the Third World," he told the daily.

"Those who criticize fail to understand that the natural resources found in any province belong to Indonesia, and not to any one province."

Aceh observers in Medan say the existing socioeconomic imbalance in Aceh province is the main factor for the resurrection of the Free Aceh Movement or Gerakan Aceh Merdeka. [passage omitted]

In its zeal to "eradicate" the rebels, Abri has sullied Indonesia's reputation abroad due to documented evidence of torture and extra-judicial executions. Also large numbers of Acehenese fleeing across the Straits of Malacca have strained Jakarta's relations with Malaysia.

Having problems identifying the enemy, civilians are often singled out as sympathizers of Aceh Merdeka and tortured in what Abri terms as applying the "shock therapy" to prevent the movement from getting grassroots support.

According to an observation report prepared by the Institute of Legal Aid in Medan, in September 2990, whole village populations comprised of men, women and children from Meunasah Mayang, Meunasah Kreh, Ulee Meuria, Geuleumpang, Keudee Karieng, Samudra, Bayu and Syamtalira-B in North Aceh were marched at gunpoint to a military installation and systematically tortured.

Also throughout September 1990, according to the institute's report, villagers' houses in Kandang in North Aceh were burned down by Kopassus forces tracking-down the rebels. Towards the end of 1990, bodies many of them headless began appearing by the side of the road from Medan to Bandar Aceh.

Hakim Alamsyah Hamdani, the institute's director in Medan said most of the bodies were from North Aceh and dumped by Abri in East Aceh.

"These executions are Abri's way of telling the Acehnese people to stop helping the rebels," added Alamsyah. The institute reckons that about 2,000 civilians have died in the fighting between Aceh Merdeka rebels and Abri, and thousands more have disappeared mysteriously.

Eyewitness reports indicate that in November 1990, 150 villagers from Sidomulya in Koat Makmur, North Aceh were forced to line-up against a wall and then shot at point-blank range by Abri. The bodies were later buried in a large grave which had earlier been dug using a bulldozer.

"These human rights abuses have really put the Indonesian government in a bad light overseas, especially since Jakarta joined the UN Human Rights Commission in February this year," said Almsyah.

So far 21 people have been sentenced to between seven years to life imprisonment on subversion charges. Fifteen more cases are to be tried in Aceh's provincial courts at the end of August.

In Lhokseumawe, legal activist Mohamad Yacob Hamzah, the coordinator of the Institute of Legal Aid's North Aceh branch, said the 21 accused were denied free and fair trials.

"The Institute's lawyers were not allowed to represent them in court despite having letters of authorization to act signed by the defendant's families," said Yacob.

"Under such circumstances, the accused often confess to fabricated charges against them for fear of undergoing further toture in military installations."

Although Abri declared success last December in the flushing-out of Aceh Merdeka rebels, reliable sources in Bandar Aceh estimate that about 705 armed fighters are still holding out in the province's heavily forested mountain ranges.

Abri has yet to capture any of the 25 most-wanted rebel ringleaders, all of whom have received military training in Libya. According to Indonesian military intelligence reports, one of the rebel leaders, Robert si Tengkorak, has crossed the Straits of Malacca and is taking refuge in Malaysia.

In April this year, 109 Acehnese left from Peureulak for Penang island in Malaysia and asked for political refugee status from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. After initially promising to send them home, Kuala Lumpur backed down, straining relations with Jakarta. According to a FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW report, Kuala Lumpur is reluctant to return the refugees unless Jakarta agrees to a blanket agreement not to persecute them, which Abri rejects.

Analysts are wary that Abri's "over-enthusiastic" efforts in crushing the Aceh Merdeka movement could actually back-fire.

"History has shown that Acehnese never surrender. It's no use fighting terror with terror. There will just be more bloodshed. Abri's strategy should be to get to the root of the problem in Aceh by fighting terror with socioeconomic development," said one academic in Medan.

Laos

Law on Election of National Assembly

BK2108115191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0910 GMT 14 Aug 91

[Law on election of members of National Assembly of Lao People's Democratic Republic, read by Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of Supreme People's Assembly Standing Committee, at sixth session of second assembly in Vientiane on 14 August—live]

[Text] Chapter I: The Overall Principles

Article 1: The election of members of the National Assembly in the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] is organized in accordance with the general principle of equality, direct participation, and secret balloting.

Article 2: All Lao citizens, regardless of sex, ethnic origin, religious beliefs, social status, domicile, or professions, who are 18 years and older, have the right to cast votes; and those who are 21 years and older, have the maintain right to stand as candidates for the election as members of the National Assembly.

Article 3: Lao citizens who are serving in the national defense and public security forces also have the right to vote and stand as candidates for the election as members of the National Assembly.

Article 4: Lao citizens who are (?metally competant) or those whose right to vote and right to run in the election have been annulled by the people's court have no rights, as stipulated in article 2 of this law.

Article 5: Eligible voters have the right to propose the removal of any of the members of the National Assembly whom they see as behaving in the manner not worthy of members of the National Assembly. However, the removal must be approved with by more than half the votes of the National Assembly members attending the meeting.

Chapter II: The number of members of the National Assembly and the number of candidates standing for the election

Article 6: The determination of the number of members of the National Assembly of the LPDR is based on the number of the citizens throughout the country. One member of the National Assembly is elected from every 50,000 citizens. In case there are less than 100,000 citizens in any province, the citizens in that province are eligible to elect two members of the National Assembly.

It is must be ensured that members of the National Assembly represent people of various classes, sexes, and ethnic origins (?in an appropriate proportion). The

National Assembly Standing Committee is in charge of fixing the number of the National Assembly members for each constituency. It will then announce the fixed number of the Nationbal Assembly members by virtue of a state decree of the president of state.

Article 7: Candidates standing for election as members of the National Assembly must be fully qualified, as follows: by having a patriotic spirit, and a spirit of cherishing the popular democratic system and fulfilling responsible tasks; by maintaining a certain level of knowledge on the party's line and policies and the state's laws, and being capable of putting them into actual practice; by gaining trust from the people; and having good health.

Article 8: The Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] and other mass organizations, with the coordination of the electoral committees and various state and party organizations of various services at various levels, are in charge of proposing and confirming names of the candidates for the election as members of the National Assembly.

Article 9: The LFNC Central Committee must submit a list of names of the candidates with the various documents of verification to the national-level electoral committee not later than 14 days before the election day. The documents of verification include:

1. a reporting form of the candidates standing for the election as members of the National Assembly;

2. a biography of each candidate, together with photos of a size 6 by 9 centimeters, giving first name and last name; age; date, month, year, and place of birth; date, month, and year of joining the revolution; present occupation and tasks; address; and others; and

3. a documents of verification on the qualifications and conditions of candidates.

Article 10: The national-level electoral committee is in charge of making an overall review of the lists of names of the candidadtes standing for the election as members of the National Assembly throughout the country, and then officially announcing the lists to the public not later than 30 days before the election day.

Article 11: After the names of the candidates for the election are publicly announced, if anyone sees that any candidate is not qualified or has any problem concerning the qualifications of the candidates, he has the right to report the matter or submit a protest, verbally or in writing, to the electoral committees. The report or protest must be taken into consideration and settled within 3 days.

Article 12: All organizations under the popular democratic political system have the right to carry out canvassing campaigns in favor of candidates in accordance with the law and regulations. Each candidate for the election also has the right to carry out canvassing campaigns for himself. But, in the campaigns, one candidate is not allowed to attack other candidates. The campaigns must end one day before the election day.

Chapter III: The election zones and ballot units

Article 13: As regard the organization of the election of members of the National Assembly in the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], provinces and city municipalities are regarded as the election zones.

Article 14: In fixing ballot units, villages are regarded as the main ballot units. Any village with at least 500 eligible voters is organized to be one ballot unit. As for a village with less than 500 eligible voters, it must be combined with a nearby village to make one single ballot unit. The district-level electoral committees are in charge of fixing and organizing ballot units in their respective districts.

Article 15: The national defense and public security committees at each level are in charge of fixing the ballot units in the ranks of national defense and public security forces and then informing the district-level electoral committees in areas where the forces are stationed of the matter.

Chapter IV: The registration of eligible voters

Article 16: Village headmen are in charge of enlisting names of eligible voters for each ballot unit. The enlistment of names of eligible voters must be completed and the lists of names must be officially announced to the public at least 40 days before the election day. Each eligible voter is entitled to have his name enrolled in the list of one particular ballot unit only.

Article 17: The enlistment of names of eligible voters in the national defense and public security forces is the responsibility of the national defense and public security committees at each level.

Article 18: After the announcement of the lists of names of eligible voters, if anyone is transferred or assigned to work in another area, he must inform the headman of the village where his name is enlisted of the transfer or assignment in order to get a document of verification to cast the vote at a new ballot unit.

Chapter V: The electoral committees

Article 19: The organizations in charge of holding the election are as follows:

1. The national-level electoral committee;

2. The provincial-level and city municipal-level electoral committees;

3. The district-level electoral committees; and

4. The committees in charge of ballot units.

The electoral committees at each level must be set up and they must be officially announced to the public at least 60 days before the election day.

Article 20: The national-level electoral committee is appointed by the National Assembly Standing Committee and it must be announced by a virtue of the state decree of the president of state. The national-level electoral committee consists of 11 to 15 members; of these, one is chairman, two are vice chairmen, and the rest are members.

The national-level electoral committee has the following rights and duties:

1. To organize the implementation of the election work and to encourage and advise everyone to respect the law on the election of members of the National Assembly;

2. To prepare and distribute documents necessary for the election;

3. To study and consider the proposals and requests to run for the election, and to approve and officially announce the lists of names of candidates;

4. To study, consider, and settle the complaints of eligible voters and of candidates on the work of the organizations in charge of the election;

5. To advise, guide, follow up, and inspect the activities of the electoral committees at various levels throughout the country in carrying out their duties;

6. To comprehensively review and announce the results of the election; and

7. To issue temporary certificates of verification to the candidates who are elected as members of the National Assembly.

Article 21: The provincial, city municipal, and district-level electoral committees are set up by provincial governors, city municipal mayors, and district chiefs. Each provincial-level and city municipal-level electoral committee is composed of seven to eight members; of these, one is chairman, one vice chairman, and the rest are members. The district-level electoral committee is composed of five to seven members; of these, one is chairman, one vice chairman, and the rest are members.

The provincial, city municipal, and district-level electoral committees have the following rights and duties:

1. To organize the implmentation of the election work and to encourage and advise everyone to respect and comply with the election law on the election of members of the National Assembly;

2. To distribute various documents concerning the election to the electoral committees at lower levels;

3. To advise, guide, follow up, and inspect the activities of the electoral committees at the lower levels in performing their duties;

4. To publicize biographies of candidates to the people;

5. To take into consideration and settle the complaints of eligible voters and candidates on the work of the organizations in charge of the election within the limits of their respective responsibilities; and

6. To comprehensively review the results of the election and then pass them on to the electoral committees at higher levels.

Article 22: The committees in charge of ballot units are set up by village headmen. The committee in charge of ballot units is composed of five to seven members; of these, one is head, one is deputy head, two secretaries, and the rest are members.

The committees in charge of ballot units have the following rights and duties:

1. To organize the implementation of the election work and to encourage and advise everyone to respect and abide by the law on the election;

2. To prepare locations and equipment for the election;

3. To distribute ballots to eligible voters;

4. To be responsible for the election work and ensure the maintenance of public order at their ballot units;

5. To settle the proposals or petitions of eligible voters within the limits of their responsibilities;

6. To count and check the ballots, prepare reports on the results of the election at their ballot units, and then submit the reports together with other documents to the district-level electoral committees; and

7. To keep the ballots cast by the voters until the announcement of the names of the candidates elected as members of the National Assembly; after that, the ballots can be destroyed.

Chapter VI: The date, time, and regulations for vote casting

Article 23: The election is organized simultaneously on a uniform basis on the same day throughout the country. The National Assembly Standing Committee is responsible for fixing the election day and officially announcing it 60 days before the election day by virtue of a state decree of the president of state. The election day must be Sunday.

Article 24: The time for casting votes is from 0700 to 1700. The committees in charge of ballot units can decide to open and to close the vote casting sooner or later than the scheduled time, depending on the practical conditions of the localities. However, they are not allowed to begin the voting before 0500 or to close the voting later than 1900.

Article 25: The regulations for vote casting are as follows:

1. Polling stations should be located at appropriate places, such as schools and meeting halls;

2. The committees in charge of ballot units must introduce and publicize various regulations and method of casting votes to all eligible voters;

3. Before the voting begins, the committees in charge of ballot units must open the ballot boxes before the public;

4. Eligible voters must report themselves and show their documents of verification to the committees responsible for the ballot units to receive ballots;

5. While eligible voters are marking their ballots, other people are absolutely forbidden to interfere;

6. If eligible voters are illiterate and cannot fill out the ballots by themselves, members of the committees responsible for the ballot units are authorized to do it for them. However, the voters must put the ballots into the ballot boxes by themselves. If they cannot do so, any members of the committees responsible for the ballot units are allowed to do it on behalf of the voters in front of them. if an eligible voter is sick, disabled, or too old to go to vote by himself, the committee responsible for the ballot unit must organize a mobile voting unit to go the voter's place to accept a ballot from him;

7. If eligible voters make errors in filling out the ballots, they must report the matter to the committees responsible for the ballot units and ask for new ballots. At the same time, they must return to the committees the ballots on which the errors have been made. The ballots with the erroneous marks on them must be destroyed immediately;

8. Eligible voters must put the ballots into the ballot boxes one by one; and

9. During the vote casting, no person or any group of people is allowed to campaign in favor of any candidate or to create disturbances that might result in violations of the election regulations;

Article 26: During the vote casting, if there is any emergency, the committees responsible for the ballot units must immediately announce the suspension of the vote casting. However, they must consider taking action in order that voting can continue. If the committees fail to settle the problem, they must announce the cancellation of the election and then report the matter to the district-level electoral committees in order to fix a new election day.

Chapter VII; The vote counting and the announcement of the election results

Article 27: The vote counting must be made openly in the presence of two witnesses from among eligible voters of the specific ballot unit. The witnesses must not be candidates. News reporters, pressmen, and representatives of candidates running for the election can observe and follow the vote counting.

The committees in charge of the ballot units must divide the authorities for counting votes as follows: one is in charge of reading, one in charge of overseeing, and the rest in charge of recording and keeping tally.

Article 28: Erroneous ballots are as follows: ballots not stamped and ballots that are not distributed by the committees responsible for the ballot units; ballots in which the number of names of candidates fixed for each particular ballot unit marked or written is above or below the actual number; ballots in which names of candidates are not marked.

Article 29: The committees responsible for the ballot units must keep the following records on the election in their ballot units: a record of the time of the opening and closing of vote casting; a record of the names of candidates; a record of the total number of eligible voters; a record of the total number of eligible voters turning to vote; a record of the number of correct ballots and the number of erroneous ballots; a record of the number of votes for each candidate; a record of the complaints already settled and the complaints not yet settled by the committees responsible for the ballot units. All these records must be signed by heads of the committees responsible for the ballot units, the secretary, and two witnesses who take part in examining the ballots. One copy of the records must be submitted to the electoral committees at the next higher level and another copy to the village headmen for filing.

Article 30: Those who are regarded as elected candidates must be the ones who receive the most consecutive votes in sequence and whose number match the number of members of the National Assembly as fixed for each particular election zone. If the votes gained by the last two candidates who are still in the number of the National Assembly members required for that election zone are equal in number, the committee in charge of that particular election zone is authorized to decide to select the person with longer tenure of service as member of the National Assembly.

Chapter VIII: The by-election of members of the National Assembly

Article 31: The by-election of members of the National Assembly will be held when a position of member of the National Assembly in a particular election zone is left vacant as a result of transfer, death, or dismissal in accordance with the law. The by-election will be held on the basis of the majority decision of members of the National Assembly.

Article 32: The electoral committee and the by-election day are set up or determined by the National Assembly Standing Committee. The by-election must then be correctly organized in accordance with this law on the election of members of the National Assembly.

Chapter IX: The expenses for the election

Article 33: Necessary expenses for the election of members of the National Assembly must be allocated from the state budget.

Chapter X: The violation of the election law

Article 34: The electoral committees at each level is in charge of studying and settling all problems arising from the violation of this law on the election of members of the National Assembly. They must report the problems and method of settling them to the national-level electoral committee for consideration.

Article 35: Those who violate the election law will be prosecuted in accordance with the law.

Chapter XI: The final code

Article 36: This law on the election of members of the National Assembly replaces the law dated 19 April 1988 on the election of people's representatives.

Article 37: The prime minister is the person authorized to issue a decree on organizing the application of this law.

Thank you.

Teachers in Toumlan Not Paid on Time

BK2308055691 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 21 Aug 91

[Text] The result of the final examination of formal education students in Toumlan District, Saravane Province, for the 1990-91 academic year was much lower than expected. Only 16 percent of the 1,728 students passed the examination. Of this figure, 1,669 were primary education students and only 14 percent could pass the examination. The source attributed the failure of education in the district to the lack of responsibility on the part of the teachers in holding classes regulary. The teachers reportedly were living in hardship because they received their pay only once every six or seven months. Moreover, the people and administration of the district did not pay close attention to their plight. There are 38 primary and one secondary schools in Toumlan District.

Leaders Receive Greetings From PRC Leaders

BK2308112591 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 23 (KPL)—President Kaysone Phomvihan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon of the Lao People's Democratic Republic have recently received messages of congratulations following their election and appointment to the new posts from President Yang Shangkun and Prime Minister Li Peng of the People's Relublic of China.

The messages indicated the Chinese state leaders' hope that the ties of friendship and cooperation being restored and developed in all areas between Laos and China will be increasingly enhanced on the basis of peaceful coexistence.

Ministry Delegation Concludes SRV Visit

BK2308064691 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] A delegation of the Ministry of Interior of the Lao People's Democratic Republic led by A-sang Laoli, member of the party Central Committee and minister of the Interior Ministry, returned to Vientiane yesterday morning. The delagation paid a seven-day visit to the SRV at the invitation of the SRV Interior Ministry. The visit was aimed at exchanging experiences and strengthening special solidarity and relations of friendship between Laos and Vietnam in general, and between the Lao and Vietnamese Interior Ministries.

Greeting the delegation upon its arrival at Wattai Airport, was Bounma Mithong, deputy minister of the interior, and a number of cadres concerned. Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, was also present at the airport.

National Mekong Committees Hold 15th Conference

BK2208112891 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 22 (KPL)—The 15th conference of the national Mekong committees of three Indochinese countries—Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia—was held here yesterday.

Heading their respective delegations to the conference are Dr. Kithong Vongsai, deputy minister of external economic relations, president of the Lao National Mekong Committee, Mr. Kong Sam-ol, vice chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers, president of the Mekong Committee of the State of Cambodia, and Mr. Tran Khai, vice-chairman of the Vietnamese State Planning Committee, vice president of the Vietnamese National Mekong Committee.

During their meeting to end today, the delegations reviewed their cooperation over the past years and drafted their joint plan of action, and discussed the propect for Cambodia to join the International Mekong Committee in late August or early September this year. This move will bring a positive impact on cooperation between four countries—Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand—in tapping natural resorces in lower Mekong basin.

Besides, the admission of Cambodia to this international organisation will facilitate positive international cooperation including better acquisition of aid to the project thereby making its operation more successful and effective.

Foreign Minister Meets Cambodian, SRV Groups

BK2308112391 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Vientiane, August 23 (KPL)—Mr. Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs of Laos yesterday morning granted here an audience to the delegations of the Mekong committees of the State of Cambodia and of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Cambodian and Vietnamese delegations attended the 15th session of the national Mekong committees of the three Indochinese countries: Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia held here on August 21-22, 1991.

Mr. Kong Sam-ol, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and president of the Mekong Committee of the State of Cambodia, and Mr. Tran Khai, vice chairman of the State Planning Committee and vice president of the Mekong Committee of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, informed the Lao deputy prime minister of the outcome of the conference.

The Lao deputy prime minister appreciated the success of the conference and of the previous cooperation activities between the three countries, by emphasizing that the cooperation and assistance between the three countries' Mekong committees was one among the decisive factors to have strengthened the long-standing special solidarity between Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

Philippines

Nullification of Mutual Defense Treaty Proposed

HK2308083491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile proposed that the mutual defense treaty between the Philippines and the United States be nullified, and a bilateral agreement be outlined instead. Here is Jojo Ismael for details:

[Begin Ismael recording] In an interview with the Senate press, Enrile bluntly said that the abrogation of the treaty will pave the way for the country to enter into nonaggressive agreements with other countries including the USSR and other socialist countries. Enrile believes that there is no more use for the mutual defense treaty following the end of the cold war among super powers. What is needed at present, according to him, is trade relations with other Asian, American, and European nations. The lone oppositionist also mentioned that the Philippine-U.S. mutual defense pact hindered the economic growth of the country. From the Senate, Jojo Ismael for the Philippine Broadcasting Services news. [end recording]

Military Said To Support Aquino on Bases Pact

HK2308014291 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] The United States remains hopeful that the Philippine Senate will ratify the agreement allowing their bases to remain here in the Philippines. This is despite the fact that many solons are against ratification of the new bases treaty. This was stated by Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, in unison with General Lisandro Abadia, in response to a statement made by United States Ambassador Frank Wisner about the expected treaty. Wisner reportedly said that he is entirely hopeful for a ratification of the bases treaty and that he is not paying much attention to proposed renegotiations. De Villa assured Wisner that whatever President Aquino's position is on the Senate's decision, it will be fully supported by the Armed Forces of the Philippines which he heads.

U.S. Bases Retention Said Vital for Security

HK2308014791 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Gorbachev's restoration to power is a welcome development which proves that support for democracy in that country is stronger. This was stated by senators who support the continued stay of American bases in the country. According to Senators Leticia Ramos-Shahani, John Osmena, and Edgardo Angara, what transpired in the Soviet Union has sent a message to the Philippines that retention of the U.S. military bases is imperative. Shahani clarified that Subic Naval base is a vital element in the maintainance of security against attack by other countries, and maintaining the balance of power in the Asia-Pacific region. However, the senators are united in the belief that Gorbachev's reassumption of power is only temporary and that the political struggle between the Kremlin hardliners and the joint force of Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin will continue. They expect that there will still be instability in the Soviet Union.

Manglapus Stresses Importance

HK2308132791 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Three countries may possibly take the place of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region the moment the American military bases are ejected from the Philippines.

This was announced by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus who specifically mentioned China, Japan, and the Soviet Union. Manglapus made this statement during the multisectoral consultation on the proposed bases treaty held in Davao City.

Manglapus reiterated the importance of extending the stay of the American bases in the country and underscored the need to have a balanced security power in the Asia-Pacific region.

In a related development, Senator Ernesto Hererra criticized the bases treaty information campaign launched by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus in the provinces. According to Hererra, Manglapus should have first conducted his information drive on the proposed treaty among the senators. Hererra also warned of possible turmoil if the workers' welfare is not included in the new bases agreement.

Meanwhile, Philippine Ambassador to Washington Emmanuel Pelaez encouraged Filipinos in the United States to support the treaty. In a draft letter, Pelaez rallied the Filipinos in the United States to send letters and telegrams, or to call senators to convince them to ratify the new bases treaty.

Two Senators Comment on Economic Aid Package

HK2308012991 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Two hardline antibases treaty senators expressed willingness to support the ratification of the Republic of the Philippines-U.S. bases treaty if the United States is open to discussion regarding the economic assistance package. According to Senators Heherson Alvarez and Maceda, America should not be stubborn because of a resurgence in the importance of the U.S. bases in the country in relation to the new world political changes. Senator Alvarez added that should the treaty be renegotiated, it is important to consider the welfare of the workers who will be displaced due to the closure of Clark Air Base and the reduction of operations at Subic Naval Base.

Aquino: Base Treaty To Be Submitted to Senate

HK2308090091 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Aug 91

[By Dick Sinchongco in Malacanang]

[Text] President Cory Aquino today assured the Senate the executive branch will submit the proposed bases treaty the moment it is signed. In a brief statement, the president said the negotiations for the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security will be submitted to the Senate the minute it is signed by both sides. [sentence as heard] This was stated by the president following a request by the senators to give them the final draft of the treaty. The senators were saying that the agreement should be submitted to them so that they can study it thoroughly. Some senators believe that the submission of the treaty is deliberately being delayed to pressure the higher chamber to ratify the agreement extending the stay of the American bases in the Philippines for 10 years. Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus explained that the delay in the initialing of the bases treaty is a result of President Bush's being engrossed in the developments in the Soviet Union. Manglapus said there are some papers which need President Bush's signature before the signing of the treaty can take place.

Aquino 'Still Hoping' for Treaty Ratification

HK2308111691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1041 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Manila, Aug 23 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino said Friday her government was preparing for the possibility of an abrupt U.S. military withdrawal from the Philippines, but held out hope that a new base treaty would be ratified.

In an interview with foreign journalists, transcripts of which were released later, she said was already planning to create a committee that would oversee the "peaceful and orderly withdrawal of the American facilities" if the Senate rejected the treaty.

But she said she was "still hoping that we will be able to get the necessary two-thirds (of the Senate) to ratify the treaty," adding that while some senators had said they were against the U.S. presence, "if some matters could be addressed, they would probably change their position."

The Philippine Senate must vote on the treaty before the current U.S. lease lapses on September 16. If a majority carries out its threat to reject the treaty, Washington has vowed to start withdrawing its forces immediately.

Sixteen of the 23 Filipino senators have said the new treaty would infringe on national sovereignty, allow nuclear weapons into the country, embroil Manila in U.S. conflicts, and pay too little in return.

In a related event, Japanese Ambassador Toshio Goto said here Friday he hoped the Philippine Senate will ratify the bases treaty saying that Japanese investors "are following with great concern" the developments on the treaty, which the Senate vows to reject.

"Let's hope the agreement will be ratified, supported by the majority of the Senate. That is most urgent," he told journalists after calling on Aquino to discuss bilateral assistance. "After that Japanese investment will probably come in."

Japanese investors in recent years have favored the Philippines' neighbors such as Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand because of political instability and other uncertainties here, businessmen said.

Earlier this month, Goto said U.S. forces stationed in Japan, South Korea and the Philippines helped guarantee peace and stability across Asia, and that the Philippines in particular had a "strategically important" location.

Washington has promised 2.1 billion dollars in direct compensation for the bases over 10 years as well as improved trade access if the treaty is approved.

The U.S. Government earlier decided to pull out of Clark Air Base after it was devastated by the eruption of Mount Pinatubo, but asked to stay until 2001 at Subic, the main repair and supply base of the Japan-based U.S. 7th Fleet.

Senator: Ratification Chances Getting Dimmer

HK2308133891 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] A pro-bases senator reported today that the chance for ratification by the Senate of a U.S. military bases treaty is getting dimmer. The senator said this despite the requests of some in the private sector, including the personal request of President Aquino. Jojo Ismael for details:

[Begin Ismael recording] The senator believes that nine out of 16 who cast negative votes, will no longer reverse their opposition stand against the ratification of the bases treaty. These nine senators include Senate President Jovito Salonga, Senators Juan Ponce Enrile, Joseph Estrada, Rene Saguisag, Bobby Tanada, Orly Mercado, Tito Guingona, Teroy Laurel, and the president's brother-in-law Butz Aquino. Earlier, Senator Aquino clarified why the president couldn't convince him and said that his views are rooted in politics while the position of Malacanang is based on economic grounds. [end recording]

Muslim Groups' Leaders Support Bases Pact

HK2308141191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 23 Aug 91 p 16

[By Ed K. Usman]

[Text] More leaders of various Muslim groups have expressed full support to the early Senate ratification of the proposed RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Treaty and Friendship, Cooperation, and Security.

They said "the removal of U.S. bases may have adverse repercussions on the employment of Filipinos in the bases and our trade and business relations with the U.S."

Abdul Muqsit Bin Abdulazis, president of the Dansalan Professional and Students Organization; Quiapo Golden Mosque Administrator Hadji Habib Ali, and many Muslim professionals said "the Philippines needs more time before finally abandoning military cooperation with the U.S. The government has to work for a strong economy to eradicate the threat of anti-government elements.

Office of Muslim Affairs (OMA) Executive Director Ali Basir M. Lucman, in talks with Muslim Filipinos in Mindanao and Metro Manila to inform the people of the advantages of the RP-U.S. treaty, said "the Muslims have shown their unqualified agreement to pro-base sectors in Congress."

The OMA head said the Muslims believe the presence of U.S. bases in the Philippines has greatly contributed to the security of the Philippines and the other Asian countries.

"The claim that the presence of bases will serve as a magnet for nuclear attack from the Soviet Union or even China is misleading for a war between or among the superpowers may defy territorial boundaries," Lucman said.

Japanese Envoy Views Treaty Rejection Effects

HK2308133791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 23 Aug 91

[By Tanny Rodriguez]

[Text] Japanese Ambassador Toshio Goto warned of the negative effect on Japanese investments to the Philippines, if the new military bases agreement is not ratified.

In an interview following his meeting with President Aquino in Malacanang, Goto said that his government is worried about the possible rejection of the agreement, even as he expressed his hope that the senators will recognize the negative effects of a treaty rejection to the economy of the country.

According to Goto, Japanese investments in the Philippines can be considered as one of the most extensive as of the present. The Japanese ambassador said that there is a great need for the ratification of the new military bases agreement, that the U.S. is a close ally of the Philippines, and that the Filipinos should consider the national interest at a wider perspective and refrain from being too emotional about this.

Development Plans for Clark, Wallace Cited

HK2308140091 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 23 Aug 91 p 2

[By Ma. Liza Solano]

[Text] The Department of Trade and Industry [DTI] is considering two possible development schemes for the industrial portions of Clark Air Base and Wallace Air Station.

This was disclosed yesterday by DTI Undersecretary Gloria M. Arroyo, who has been assigned by DTI Secretary Peter D. Garrucho Jr. as overall industrial development coordinator for the two bases.

She said the first scheme being eyed is the build-operate-and-transfer (BOT) or build-operate (BO). The second is a joint venture between state-owned National Development Co. or the Baseland Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) and the private sector.

Under the BOT/BO scheme, the development of the area into an industrial estate will be in several phases.

An agreement between the NDC [National Development Corporation] and the contractor will direct the contractor to develop Phase I of the area.

NDC will take over the project once the site has been developed. In addiiton to the development cost, the contractor will receive a reasonable rate of return.

The subsequent phases will be developed using the proceeds from the sale of Phase I and other financing schemes.

Joint Venture

Under the joint venture scheme, either NDC or BCDA will own the land.

Assuming NDC owns the land, a joint venture will be formed by a consortium comprised of NDC and private local and foreign companies to undertake the project. Ownership and administration of the land wil be transferred by Government to NDC by virture of a presidential directive.

NDC will contribute the baseland as its 40% equity participation in the joint venture. The other investors will put in the remaining 60% equity in the form of cash.

Assuming BCDA will own the land, a joint venture firm will also be formed by BCDA, NDC, and private local and foreign companies. NDC, which will develop the industrial estate, will put in 10% equity and enter into a management contract with BCDA.

Mt. Pinatubo

However, these development schemes do not yet take into account the damage wrought by the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo on Pampanga where Clark Air Base in located.

Ms Arroyo said the effect of the eruption will be discussed during a meeting of the Legislative and Executive Bases Council on Saturday at the Asian Institute of Tourism.

Clark Air Base will be turned over by the United States to the Armed Forces of the Philippines not later than September 16, 1992. Wallace Air Station will also be turned over to the Philippine Government.

The Legislative and Executive Bases Council is at present determining how these military facilities may be converted to other uses. The DTI has been assigned as lead agency in the development of the baselands identified for industrial use.

Dames and Moore International has earlier expressed interst in developing Wallace Air Station as an industrial estate.

The Philippine Port Authority is also eyeing the site for possible conversion into a container port.

Three other alternative development schemes have also emerged from provious studies. These are the conversion of the site into a (1) tourism center, (2) government center, and (3) commercial-residential center.

PRC Said Not Opposed to Taiwan Trade Ties

HK2308011991 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] The People's Republic of China assured President Corazon Aquino yesterday that it will not oppose trade relations between the Philippines and Taiwan. (Fu Hau), head of the delegation of PRC legislators, issued the assurance during a visit to President Aquino at Malacanang. In an interview after the courtesy call, (Fu) said President Aquino assured him of the Philippines' adherence to the one-China policy. Under this policy, the Philippines should not enter into diplomatic relations with Taiwan and will recognize only the PRC as a state.

Meanwhile, Senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani who accompanied the legislators to the palace said President Aquino explained to the visitors that the PRC should understand the country's trade relations with other countries, but did not particularly refer to Taiwan which the PRC considers one of its provinces only.

Aquino, Party May Endorse Different Candidates

HK2308115891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1120 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Manila, Aug 23 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino said Friday that she would announce her preferred successor in January, adding that her choice in the 1992 national elections would not necessarily be the same as her ruling party's.

"I will make my announcement (in) January of next year, so I will let everybody know who my candidate is by that time," Aquino said in the transcript of an interview given earlier to foreign journalists.

Aquino, who has announced that she does not intend to seek a second term, also said her endorsement might not go to the nominee of her Struggle for a Democratic Philippines (LDP) party.

"My decision is my own," she said.

Two LDP candidates, House Speaker Ramon Mitra and Aquino's former defense secretary, Fidel Ramos, have both announced plans to run for president and both are actively seeking Aquino's endorsement.

The LDP, which controls the 200-member lower house of Congress, was founded by Mitra and his close ally, congressman Jose Cojuangco, Aquino's younger brother.

Critics have said their influence virtually ensures that Mitra would be the LDP candidate.

Enrile Comments on Possible Aquino Endorsements

HK2308083391 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] President Aquino may not support either former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. in the coming 1992 presidential polls.

This was stated by minority floor leader Juan Ponce Enrile while saying he will be endorsed by the Nacionalista Party to be its standard bearer in the convention on 16 November. Although he has no strong basis to support his view, Enrile said neither Ramos nor Mitra are to be endorsed by the president for the presidency. Enrile explained that if the president intends to endorse either of the two, she should have shown indications of this.

National Oil Company Chairman Diokno Resigns

HK2308085291 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] President Aquino has accepted the resignation of Benjamin Diokno as chairman of the Philippine National Oil Company [PNOC]. Diokno's resignation will take effect at the end of this month. It was not specified when the resignation was submitted. According to Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, the president has not chosen someone to replace Diokno. In this connection, Drilon denied that Diokno resigned for reading a statement by former Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos before the Manila Rotary Club. It will be recalled that in the statement, Orbos criticized President Aquino's administration. Drilon clarified that Diokno decided to leave PNOC due to differences with Manuel Estrella who is the company's head of administration.

Intelligence Chief: No 1992 Communist Candidates

HK2308135891 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Alfredo Filler, Armed Forces of the Philippines intelligence chief, reported that the communist movement will not field candidates at the national level during the 1992 polls. According to Filler, Jose Maria Sison said that the communist movement will support nationalist, progressive candidates.

[Begin Filler recording in English] He said that the party must learn from its errors in the past as when they boycotted the 1986-87 elections. The People's Party has come up with a public statement which you reported yourselves, that they are fielding candidates at the national level. [end recording]

Three 'Top' NPA Officials Arrested in Bulucan

HK2308084691 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 23 Aug 91 p 1

[By D. Ambrocio, E. Silverio, P. Hernandez, and W. Dayrit]

[Text] Three top Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] officials were arrested by police in Norzagaray, Bulacan, two days ago.

Senior Inspector Orlando Maddela, district director of 145th Philippine National Police [PNP] Company reported that the rebels were captured at a checkpoint after being placed under surveillance for the last two weeks.

Those arrested were Roberto Santos, alias Comrade Dindo and Comrade Ronel, 29, of Area 3, San Nicolas, Hagonoy; George Bautista, alias Comrade Lerry and Comrade Penpen, 21, residing at Santa Cruz, Angat, suspected leader of the Area Party Committee of Angat and Nozcagaray and also said to be the son of a former police captain; and Gerry Rivera, 22, a resident of Sto. Rosario, Hagonoy and suspected leader of the militia in the area.

It was discovered that Santos headed the intelligence and finance network of the CPP-NPA in the province. He is also said to be responsible for collecting revolutionary taxes from businessmen supporting the movement.

A P [Philippine pesos] 30,000 reward was offered for the arrest of Santos.

According to the report, they were arrested while they were in a red car, with plate number PAF-582, which was stopped at a checkpoint by men of the Norzagaray Police and the 145th PNP district.

Confiscated from the suspects were: one Remington .45 caliber pistol; a German Luger Walter .38 pistol, a fragmentation grenade; ammunition and various subversive documents.

During the investigation, Santos and Bautista admitted that they were members of the NPA, while Rivera denied the accusations.

Santos also admitted that he was a leader of the Agaw Armas Gang [Arms Snatching Gang] of the NPA and his gun was from one of his victims last June, a Captain Patrick Espana of the 11th Marine Battalion.

It was also revealed by an informant that Santos is one of 30 activists who were trained by terrorist experts in a secret NPA camp in Mindanao in 1988.

In related events:

—Clashes between rebels and government forces in the Mountain Province escalated when the PNP Narcotics Command [NarCom] discovered 15 hectares planted with marijuana which is valued at P250 million.

According to NarCom Chief Superintendent Job Mayo, six rebels and a police officer were killed in the almost one week encounter between the two sides.

—Communist rebels ambushed two Philippine Army vehicles transporting ten soldiers of the 501st Infantry Battalion in Sto. Domingo, Cagayan.

No casualties were reported and government troops were able to retrieve one kilo of dynamite from the NPA rebels.

'High-Ranking' NPA Propagandist Said Arrested

HK2308084791 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] A high-ranking official of the leftist movement was captured by authorities. Josette Olivera reports.

[Begin recording] [Olivera] This was stated today by the Armed Forces intelligence chief, Brigadier General Alfredo Filler, in a news conference.

[Filler in English] This is to announce the capture of Roberto Roldan y Baton, the head of the propaganda staff-political department of the New People's Army General Command. Roldan was captured at about 1100 in the morning last 21 August near the Shoe Mart City in North EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] by joint elements of the Intelligence Service-Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] and Philippine National Police.

[Olivera] That was Brigadier General Alfredo Filler, the chief of the AFP intelligence. From Camp Aguinaldo, Josette Olivera recording. [end recording]

Thailand

USSR Coup Compared to Thailand's NPKC

BK2308090191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Aug 91 p A8

[Commentary by Sophon Ongkhara under the "Sideline" rubric entitled: "More Lessons for Would-Be Despots"]

[Text] Hurrah!!!... Three cheers for the Soviet people who have demonstrated extraordinary courage to protect their fledgling democracy from a band of coup plotters. Three cheers for the bulk of the mighty Soviet armed forces which have shown high respect for their country's constitution, the supreme law and bulwark of democracy for every nation.

Down with the fascists and tyrants! The Soviet people chanted. They were not intimidated by the long lines of battle tanks threatening to blow them into bits despite the fact that they have only tasted the fruit of democracy for five years. The Soviet people made sure that democracy and the constitution was preserved, even if it meant laying their lives before the tanks.

The military juntas ruling Burma and Thailand should pay more than just scant attention to the Soviet coup failure. They have seen during the past two days the strong determination and power of the people to resist attempts by an armed force to change a government and trample on the constitution. People don't want to be suppressed. It's that simple.

Now let's try to probe the minds of the leaders of the Thai junta in the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] during the time of the Kremlin coup.

On the first day, there must have been smiles all around. "See", they must have thought, "even a coup was staged in the Soviet Union". And with this in mind, they would have wanted to show the Thai people that a coup was not a bad thing after all.

Alas! Most military bids for power fail and the one in the Kremlin was no exception. The Thai junta leaders now cannot use the Kremlin coup to underscore their unconstitutional and criminal acts. The Soviet coup crumbled in the face of the iron-will of the people who refused to be duped by the harangues and rhetorics, which were not different from what we heard on Febrary 23.

The excuse was the same. The immediate result was the same. The people have to be on the receiving end. The right of the people must be restricted. Demonstrations and political gatherings must be banned. Dissension will not be tolerated in order to preserve peace and good morals of the country. It just goes on and on and where it stops, only the good Lord knows.

How would the key Thai junta leaders perform amidst groups of reporters from now on? Sheepish smiles, at best. Incoherent comments in evasive manners, at worst. Better if they choose to confine their activities in office or at home to avoid the disdainful stares from the public.

Since the February coup, the junta chieftains have been enjoying the limelight while fielding questions from reporters. Their faces were beaming with confidence, while the tone of their answers bordered on arrogance. Both corners of their mouths were up. They looked so convincingly invincible.

At times, they even showed distaste to the people's submissiveness to authoritarian rule. But from now on, they will require a lot of nerve to take questions from reporters if some junta leaders continue their big-ego presence in front of TV cameras. Good. Then we will see whether their attitudes have changed after the Soviet coup fiasco.

If reporters cannot come up with questions immediately when they come across any of the junta leaders, I can offer several here.

—Sir! What do you think about the failure of the Soviet coup attempt?
—Sir! Have you sent a congratulatory message to the Soviet people, and a message of condolence to the relatives of the coup plotters in advance?
—Sir! Will the coup failure serve as a good lesson for the Thai armed forces?
—Sir! Do you think the Soviet armed forces were not trained at all on how to stage a successful coup?
—Sir! Does this mean that our armed forces are more capable in toppling an elected government?
—Is it possible for Thailand to export... hmm...... textbooks on how to stage successful coups, to earn foreign exchange and reduce the country's trade deficit?
—Sir! This is a long question. Do you think coups cannot be exported like a revolution—once a hot product in

international trade of the communists—because the Soviet people firmly believe that a coup is an outdated and a most condemned method of changing a democratically-elected government?

—Sir! We have been hearing a lot of propaganda since our childhood that communists are devils. But how come the Red Army and the whole Soviet armed forces have deep respect for their constitution and considered the coup unconstitutional?

—Sir! Do you know how the Soviet military cadets were taught in their curriculum to respect the constitution and realize that it is totally inviolable?

—Sir! Shouldn't all the armed forces in developing countries follow the goose steps...sorry...the footsteps of the Soviet soldiers, as far as the upholding of the constitution is concerned?

—Sir! Is it to late for Thai people to take to the street to denounce the coup now! We may have a local Yeltsin-...err...

—Sir! In a follow-up question, will the troops and tanks be sent out to shoot the people, whose tax payments have been used as contributions to the defence budget?

—Sir! To prevent such a situation, is it possible for the NPKC to see to it that our new constitution is more democratic?

—Last Question. Sir! Have you yet chosen any country of your choice for possible asylum! Just in case...err...

It will be very enlightening, if we get all the answers.

The junta leaders must have thanked their stars two days ago that the crisis in the Soviet Union would shield them from continuing negative publicity in the press and public criticism. Now they watch in honor that more attention would be directed at them.

The junta can expect more pressure from the people and the cries for true democracy could get louder. The junta leaders might even be told to step down from power. Their presence has become more and more of a disgrace to the nation. Hopefully, there will be repeated calls for our soldiers to be truly professional, to be on par with their Soviet counterparts, at least. They will be asked not to follow the orders of their commanders who have unrestrained greed for power, and total disrespect for the constitution and the people's right.

With the same arrogance of power, I think the junta chieftains and their civilian lackeys will refuse to learn the Soviet lesson. An immediate excuse is that time and circumstances are entirely different. The Kremlin coup was badly planned, there was no doubt about it. On the other hand there is an "undeniable fact" that the Thai people are too submissive to raise a finger against guns and tanks.

They are probably correct, now. But they could be wrong very soon. When they find out, it will be too late.

Agreement Reached With SRV on Gas Venture

BK2308021991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 91 p 17

[Text] Senior Thai and Vietnamese officials have reached an agreement in principle to embark on an ambitious joint-venture programme to exploit natural gas deposits off southern Vietnam.

Deputy Industry Minister Wira Susangkonkan said he had secured such an agreement with a Vietnamese Cabinet member during a recent visit to Vietnam where he followed up discussions on the development of offshore gas fields and the establishment of a power plant and a fertiliser factory.

But the plan was subject to final approval from higher authorities of the two countries.

Mr Wira said Vietnam's council of ministers had agreed to consider the programme, adding he would report the result of his talks with Vietnam to Industry Minister Sippanon Ketuthat.

The initial phase of the programme called for the development of natural gas from the White Tiger field which was capable of supplying 75 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd) of gas and the Dragon field which expected to yield 30 MMcfd of gas.

The plan also included the establishment of a power house with 300 megawatt capacity and a fertiliser plant capable of producing one million tons a year.

In the longer terms another possible scheme involved the development of natural gas reserves from the Big Bear field and laying a subsea gas transmission line from it to the Gulf of Thailand, a distance of more than 700 kilometres.

Mr Wira said he would try to ensure that an agreement for these projects was signed within the term of the present Government.

Burmese Dissidents Protest Rangoon Monks' Plans

BK2308020291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 91 p 6

[Text] A group of Burmese dissidents yesterday staged a peaceful protest at a Bangkok temple against Rangoon's plans to confer honours on senior Thai Buddhist monks.

The 14 dissidents, including one woman, remained inside Wat Bowonniwet where the Supreme Patriach resides for about 30 minutes before dispersing.

The dissidents issued a statement saying SLORC's [State Law and Order Restoration Council] move to confer honours on 10 senior Thai monks, including the Supreme Patriarch, in Bangkok constituted an affront to the Sangkha Racha.

The Burmese Minister of Religious Affairs will be in Bangkok from August 27-30, during which the honours will be presented to the monks.

SLORC leader Gen Saw Maung earlier planned to present the honours himself, but his official visit here was opposed by the Thai Foreign Ministry.

"This award is a transparent ploy to mask the atrocities committed against innumerable monks inside Burma," the statement said.

The statement claimed SLORC had exiled, disrobed, arrested, tortured and killed many monks as well as denying alms from military families.

"They would like the world to believe that, even though they have abused, tortured and killed their monks, an extremely prominent international monk recognises them and even receives a Buddhist award from them," said the statement.

"How evil this junta is to oppress worthy members of the Buddhist SANGKHA at home and yet to wear a mask of piety in Thailand," it added.

Paper Views Problems in Relations With Burma

BK2308015891 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 91 p 4

[Editorial: "'Realism' Lacking in Relations With Burma"]

[Text] Under normal circumstances, the granting of religious honours for the leadership of Thailand's Ecclesiastical Council should be an occasion worthy of celebration. Despite the sour note left by a handful of controversial cases involving monks alleged to be engaged in unholy acts, such as those implicated in the fake royal decorations scandal a few years back and the more recent defrocking of the (former) Phra Nikorn Thammawathi, the vast majority of monks in the Thai Sangkha Order still adhere to and practise the world's highest Buddhist religious standards. In light of the respect and reverence they deserve, it should not be surprising that foreign governments or organisations would want to confer honours on them.

But the impending plan by the Burmese military junta to confer the two highest ecclesiastical titles of Burma on His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch and other members of this country's Ecclesiastical Council is suspect. Coming from an authoritarian regime which is known for its record of suppressing and persecuting Buddhist monks who took part in Burma's pro-democracy movement, the real intention behind the State Law and Order Restoration Committee (SLORC)'s plan to confer the honours on the senior Thai monks is questionable to say the least. In the absence of acceptable explanation, it may be surmised that this is a politically-motivated move aimed at generating some legitimacy for the Burmese military leadership.

The ceremony to confer the honours has been scheduled for next week. In fact it could have taken place earlier had there been no sensitivity to the subject. The Foreign Ministry was reported to have warned the Religious Affairs Department early this year that the planned presentation of the Burmese titles might be politically motivated and could tarnish Thailand's image if accepted. The ministry at the time also reportedly advised that Thai monks should refrain from travelling to Burma. Apparently at Rangoon's insistence, the ministry was reported to have changed track last month and advised that the honours be accepted to avoid hurting Thai-Burmese relations.

If this was indeed the case, the ministry may have to re-assess its value judgement. Being Krengchai may be our soft spot, though still a virtuous trait among us, but even the utmost deference should have its proper limits. If the Burmese honours really constitute a political ploy to lend some legitimacy to SLORC, any connivance on the part of the Thai authorities could well be interpreted as a tacit endorsement of the Burmese regime's treatment of its own Sangha Order. While His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch and other senior Thai monks designated to receive the Burmese honours are spiritual men who should remain above the earthly debate of what is right or wrong in Burma, officials at Saranrom Palace should know whether action of this nature is positive or damaging to Thailand.

This leads on to the broader question of Thailand's policy on Burma—an area which has subjected this country to persistent international criticism. Perhaps understandably, Thailand, along with its ASEAN partners, has rejected repeated calls by Western countries to impose sanctions on Burma for its notorious human rights violation record on the grounds that sanctions or any other hardline approach might be counterproductive. For the very reason that vehement protest or tough sanctions run counter to traditional Asian culture, they may indeed be undesirable. But Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin has yet to define and clearly amplify what constitutes the Government's latest policy of "constructive engagement" in its relations with Burma.

Thailand cannot afford to continue bearing the brunt of international criticism for advancing its economic interests through a chummy relationship with the Rangoon dictatorial regime while downplaying the aspirations of the Burmese people. Bilateral relations can be constructive and meaningful only if they benefit the avarage Burmese citizen. Gentle persuasion can be a noble strategy only if it is effective in helping to bring about positive changes. More pragmatic and tougher measures are needed if it fails.

European Team Looks Into EC Projects Funding

BK2308020491 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Aug 91 p A4

[By Tunsathit Thapthim]

[Text] A proposed British-led European Community team intended to observe Thailand's political transition would also look into the possibility of channelling huge amounts of EC funds into royally-sponsored development projects here, an informed British source said.

Norman Richmond, member of an unofficial British delegation here arranging for the possible observation mission, said the EC approach was part of Western Europeans' attempt to deal realistically with Thailand while at the same time avoiding interfering in the country's domestic affairs.

The EC, which has stepped in to bankroll fledging democracies in Eastern Europe, has allocated enormous budgets to assist development and promote democracy in developing countries in other parts of the world.

Richmond accompanied Lord St John of Bletso, a member of Britain's House of Lords, to Thailand about two weeks ago to test the waters on the somewhat sensitive plan for the EC to send a British-led observation team here during the upcoming electoral period.

Lord St John returned early this week to Britain, where he would deliver his assessment of the Thai situation to the British government and Parliament. He had met certain Thai government and political leaders and described their initial response to the observation proposal as positive.

Richmond told THE NATION in an interview this week that the proposed mission, which would comprise mainly politicians and certain officials, would also study Thailand's rural development and find out what could be done to support it.

He said Lord St John's informal delegation was very impressed by the development initiatives of His Majesty the King and other royally-sponsored projects.

"From the European point of view there could be very good collaboration between Europe and royally sponsored projects," Richmond said. "You know how the money is going to be spent. (That) it's not going to be diverted into other directions. The Royal Family is internationally recognized."

Previous EC involvement in development programmes in Thailand was through the United Nations and not significant.

Richmond confirmed the increasingly powerful community wants to become more involved in this region.

"What we know now is the European Community over the next year or so will be doubling the size of its assistance and development programmes to the Asean group of nations. And it's very important Thailand receive her share of it," he said.

Asked how much assistance Thailand could get for its rural development, Richmond said: "I can say the amount will be significant.".

He stressed Thailand's importance in the eyes of Europeans, who he said could easily be misinformed about the country.

Richmond echoed Lord St John's remarks that many westerners, after hearing about the Feb 23 coup, imagined Thailand was in turmoil, and even those closer to events here were confused about who is actually in charge of running the government and the direction the country was heading to.

"Thailand is one of this most important countries here as far as trade is concerned and as far as creating a climate where democracy can flourish in Southeast Asia (is concerned)," Richmond said.

He admitted his delegation was surprised to see the real situation here and was optimistic that democracy would soon be re-established.

He said it became clearer for the delegation why the military had become and would remain, at least in the foreseeable future, an inseparable player in the Thai politics.

"Certainly the situation is more complex than it first appeared to the Europeans. And if you don't visit Thailand today in this situation, it's impossible to appreciate these complexities. And the danger is for many people, many governments in Europe that they will make policies in regards to Thailand on the hoof as it were," he said.

The EC, along with the United States, condemned the February military takeover, but Richmond said that for some Europeans, Washington's swift suspension of aid was somewhat a rash act.

It appeared Thailand had stumbled in its path towards full democracy and was doing well in trying to get back on its feet, he said, adding that it was apparent that "the democratic spirit exists here".

Thailand, he emphasized, "is going through a process, and it's important that through that process, the international community remain in touch, in contact with you.

"Otherwise, if over the next six months the misunderstanding is allowed to grow, you will find that perhaps your nation is misunderstood because you are not taking the international community along with you. That will seriously affect investment and relationships with the international community, not only America but also perhaps your Asean partners.

"...We have to come here, consider the situation naturally, think about it, speak to people, shed some light. We know what happened is a fait accomplit. What do you want to do now?"

Richmond added he thought the EC would continue to deal with Thailand whether or not the country achieves democracy.

Governor Denies Airport Authority Corruption

BK2308015591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Aug 91 p 3

[Text] Airport Authority of Thailand [AAT] governor Sombun Rahong yesterday denied allegations by a key New Aspiration Party [NAP] member that AAT officials were guilty of corruption.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun said the charges were politcally motivated.

NAP secretary-general Prasong Sunsiri wrote in his column in Naew Na daily on Monday that the AAT and its chairman Air Force Chief ACM Kaset Rotchananin had failed to take action against corruption by some of its officials.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong claimed the AAT was secretly paying the Finance Ministry around 700,000 baht in an effort to protect one of its officials found guilty of using public telephones at Don Muang Airport for his own commercial use.

ACM Sombun said yesterday the AAT was not involved in collecting fees from public telephones at the airport.

The Telephone Organisation of Thailand allows private companies to handle this service in return for a share of the revenue.

Sqn Ldr Prasong also claimed the AAT had failed to take action against a construction company after it changed the piling specifications of an airport building to reduce its costs.

ACM Sombun said the change in specifications had been approved by engineers so the building could hold more weight. He said the change had cost the company more not less.

Sqn Ldr Prasong alleged finally that a political party had received 25 million baht monthly for four years from the sale of smuggled goods at airport duty-free outlets.

The AAT governor said the Conter Corruption Commission had looked into this matter last year and confirmed there was no basis for the allegation.

He said goods imported for sale at the duty-free outlets had to pass a series of careful Customs checks. It was impossible for a political party to gain 25 million baht a month from this business, he said.

ACM Sombun then said the profit from the operation of the duty-free shops at the airport had risen from about 100-200 million baht a year to over 600 million baht since the AAT began handling this business.

A person should be assessed on his performance, he said, and the AAT's performance had been applauded by the people and the Cabinet.

The AAT's expected profit of 3,000 million baht this year was proof of its performance, he added.

ACM Kaset, meanwhile, said politics was a dirty affair and, as he was not a politician, he had nothing to say in response to any accusations.

There have been reports the Air Force, AAT and Thai Airways International have suspended their subscriptions to Naew Na because of Sqn Ldr Prasong's article, but ACM Kaset said he personally still read the newspaper.

He said the three organisations had the right to continue or end their subscriptions as they saw fit, and any subscription cancellation was not in connection to personal matters.

Vietnam

Thai Military Delegation Visits

BK2108134791 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 18 Aug 91

[Text] At the invitation of our national defense ministry, a delegation of the Royal Thai National Defense Academy led by General Surintha Thupklam, director of the academy, officially visited our country.

At the guest house of the national defense ministry, General Doan Khue, political bureau member and national defense minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, cordially received the delegation.

On hand at the reception were representatives of the foreign ministry and the higher military academy and some general and high ranking officers of the Vietnamese People's Army.

On behalf of our defense ministry, General Doan Khue warmly welcomed the Royal Thai Defense Academy delegation, whose visit to Vietnam was aimed at intensify understanding, friendship and cooperation between the armies and peoples of the two countries, and contributing to preserving peace, stability and cooperation among countries in Southeast Asia and the world in general.

On behalf of the delegation, General Surintha Thupklam thanked the Vietnamese Army and people for their warm and friendly welcome and hoped that the relations of solidarity and friendship between the armies and peoples of the two countries would be increasingly consolidated and developed.

Canadian Embassy Opens in Hanoi 22 Aug

BK2308074291 Hanoi VNA in English 0633 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—The Canadian Embassy was officially opened in Hanoi yesterday.

Among those present at the inaugural ceremony organized last night by Canadian Charge d'Affaires A.I.

Marius R. Grinius were Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem and members of the diplomatic corps in Hanoi.

Mr. Marius R. Grinuis thanked the government, the foreign minister and other concerned offices of Vietnam for having facilitated the early functioning of the Canadian Embassy.

Vice Foreign Minister Dinh Nho Liem said the opening of the Canadian Embassy in Hanoi as well as reopening of the Vietnamese embassy in Ottawa, Canada, are the manifestations of the fine relationship between the two countries, which, he hoped, would be further consolidated are developed in the interests of each country as well as of world peace and development.

Several Leaders Greet Nguyen Manh Cam

BK2308093891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 21 Aug 91

[Summary] "Gianni de Michelis, minister of foreign affairs of Italy; Mrs. MacDougall, minister of state for foreign affairs of Canada; Alois Mock, Austrian minister for foreign affairs; and Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez, minister of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Spain, have sent messages of greetings Comrade Nguyen Manh Cam on the occasion of his appointment as minister of foreign affairs."

Minister Receives Malaysian Finance Minister

BK2208160891 Hanoi VNA in English 1446 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 22—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam received yesterday Anwar Ibrahim, minister of finance of Malaysia, who are here for an international symposium entitled "Interaction for Progress: Vietnam's New Course and ASEAN Experiences."

Also present at the reception was Malaysian Ambassador N. Parameswaran.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam expressed his joy at Malaysia's economic development and highly valued its policy of strengthening regional cooperation.

For his part, Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim highly valued the achievements recorded by the Vietnamese people in the process of renovation and external relations. He said he believed that the fine friendship between the two countries would be further developed.

Host and guest expressed their wishes for the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Malaysia in the interests of each country, and for peace, cooperation and development in the region.

Le Quang Dao Greets Departing Australian Envoy

BK2308032691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 17 Aug 91

[Text] On 16 August Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, received Mr. Graham Richard Alliband, Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, who came to bid farawel to him. Chaiman Le Quang Dao had cordial talks with the ambassador.

Leaders Greet Afghanistan's National Day

BK2308034091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 18 Aug 91

[Text] Vietnamese Leaders have sent a message of congratulations to their Afghan counterparts on the latter's 52d National Day.

The message noted that the Vietnamese people rejoice at the Afghan achievements over the past years in defending Afghanistan's independence and sovereignty. It further maintained that the Afghan Government's goodwill and positive response to the five-point proposal of the UN secretary general have positively improved the process of seeking a political solution to the conflict in Afghanistan, thus ushering in a new prospect for a peaceful settlement of the Afghan issue.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Congratulatory Messages

BK2308082191 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—The newly-elected chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet has received congratulatory messages from Chancelor Helmut Kohl of Germany, Prime Minister Saw Maung of Myanmar [Burma], Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed of Malaysia, Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti of Italy, and Prime Minister D.B. Wejetunga of Sri Lanka.

Boundary Reorganization Procedures Taken by Hanoi

BK2308045091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 18 Aug 91

[Text] In compliance with a National Assembly decision concerning the readjustment of the boundaries of certain localities, including the transfer of responsibilties over a number of districts and towns to Vinh Phu and Ha Tay provinces, the Party Committee and People's Committee of the Hanoi Municipality has met with leaders of various districts and towns affected by the above readjustment as well as with the directors of various offices and the heads of various agencies and sectors concerned.

Comrade Pham The Duyet, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, has met with those districts and towns reorganized to nearby provinces.

The Municipal People's Committee has worked out a responsibility transfer plan in order to ensure high unity, unanimity, and economy, avoid unnecessary personnel increase and a loss of socialist property, and create the most convenient conditions for districts and towns to promptly stabilize their organizations and bring production into play.

The responsibility transfer must be carried out accurately and carefully without any indications of departmentalism and localism.

The heads of a some offices, sections, and branches have made some specific suggestions in connection with the organization and management of material bases and have asked the Council of Ministers, the municipality, and the two provinces in question to promptly get their hands on this issue so the responsibility transfer can be carried out in the coming September.

Do Muoi Addresses Trade Union Conference

BK2308074991 Hanoi VNA in English 0630 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23 - "To strengthen the working class and make it continue to play the vanguard role in the new conditions are of strategic importance and one of the most important tasks of the trade union organization," said Party Secretary Do Muoi in an address to the 6th conference of the executive committee of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers held in Hanoi on August 22-24.

Do Muoi further said:

"For the time being, it is necessary to help every union member, worker and labourer, think and act along the lines of the 7th party congress aimed at achieving the strategic target set for the next 10-15 years, namely to overcome the state of poverty and underdevelopment and step by step build a prosperous and strong country.

"To consolidate the state-run economy," he said referring to concrete tasks," is a key point in the party policy of economic development in which the trade union has to play a crucial role. The union must join responsible state offices in experimentating with a new mode of management at a state-owned enterprise in which both the state and workers are represented and the elected director functions along the orientation and tasks set by the managing board.

"The union must help and guide its members and workers develop the family-based economy, expand production and services in order to generate more jobs and increase more income.

"On the other hand, the union has to protect the genuine interests of the owrking people and oppose all illegal business operations as well as tax evasion in whatever form," Do Muoi stressed. He added:

"If the union could ensure its effective activities, the working class would enhance its leading role and could unite people of all walks of life in national construction and successfully carry out the resolutions of the 7th party congress."

Seminar on Agricultural Development Policy Held

BK2308081191 Hanoi VNA in English 0610 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA August 23—A seminar on the "agricultural development policy" was held here on August 20-22 by the Vietnam State Committee for Planning with financial assistance from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Foreign participants included Mr. S. Khan, deputy, director general of the FAO headquarters in Rome and professors and doctors in economy.

The seminar dwelt on such subjects as investment policy for agriculture, guarantees for stability for agricutural development, land and agricutural taxes, the organization of agricultural cooperatives, service sectors, environmental and ecological protecion, and rural development.

Over 6,000 Families Give Up Nomadic Life

BK2308095691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 Aug 91

[Text] To date, more than 6,800 families, comprising over 36,600 people of various nationalities, in 25 mountainous villages of Quang Nam-Danang province have given up the practice of leading a nomadic life and clearing hills and forests to make slash-burn upland fields, and have step by step taken part in planting wet rice.

These compatriots have opened up more than 5,700 hectares of virgin land for planting industrial and export crops, such as cinnamon, coffee, tea, tung trees, and cashew. They have also built 42 small water conservancy projects and many earth embankments to secure water for 800 hectares of ricefields and more than 700 kms of intervillage roads leading to various population centers. To date, auto-routes have been expanded to 34 of the 58 villages.

Thanks to settled farming and settled life, these compatriots have been able to improve their living conditions.

Australia

Hawke Says Yeltsin To Visit Australia in 1992

BK2308003891 Hong Kong AFP in English 2250 GMT 22 Aug 91

[Text] Canberra, Aug 23 (AFP)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin has accepted an invitation to visit Australia early next year, Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Friday.

Hawke told ABC radio in an early morning interview that he had telephoned Yeltsin on Thursday night to congratulate him on thwarting the attempt to overthrow Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

During their 25-minute conversation, Hawke reminded Yeltsin of a long-standing invitation to visit Australia; the Russian president accepted and said he would come to this country "in the first three months of next year," Hawke said.

Hawke said he had also conferred with Gorbachev on Thursday night.

Hawke Says Baltic States Recognition Inevitable

BK2308015491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0130 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] Canberra, Aug 23 (AFP)—Australia will "inevitably" recognise the independence of the Baltic states from the Soviet Union, Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Friday.

In an ABC [Australian Broadcasting Corporation] radio interview, Hawke also said Russian President Boris Yeltsin had accepted an invitation to visit Australia "in the first three months of next year."

Hawke telephoned Yeltsin late Thursday to congratulate him on thwarting the coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and renewed a long-standing invitation that Yeltsin visit Australia.

"He accepted with alacrity," Hawke said, and "asked that our foreign ministers proceed to the arrangement for his visit, and said he'd be coming to visit us in the first three months of next year."

A standing invitation to Gorbachev to visit Australia will be renewed in later telephone calls, Hawke said.

Commenting on the consequences of the failure of the coup, Hawke said:

"The devolution of power to the (15 Soviet) republics will be accelerated and strengthened, and particularly ... in regard to the Baltics, whereby we will see them getting their independence."

Australia has so far refused to recognise the declarations of independence by Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia, but Hawke said:

"I've made it clear that when those internal circumstances develop ... we will be one of the first to recognise the Baltic states."

During telephone conversations with him, neither Yeltsin nor Gorbachev had raised the question of economic aid, Hawke said.

But he suggested that Australia could help in other ways.

"There are features of our economic landscape—vast continent, an agricultural producing country—which means we have expertise in the areas of transportation, agricultural production and distribution of agricultural products which can be of assistance," Hawke said.

"We've made it clear that we are prepared to help in those ways."

Papua New Guinea

Government Awaits Peace Talk Confirmation

BK2308075491 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 23 Aug 91

[Text] The Papua New Guinea [PNG] Government is still waiting for confirmation that the long-awaited third round of peace talks with Bougainville secessionist leaders will go ahead next week. The talks are scheduled to start in Arawa, Bougainville, on Monday but the Bougainville Revolutionary Army leaders have made recent demands as preconditions for the talks, including withdrawal of PNG troops from Northern Bougainville and Buka Island.

PNG's Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu has rejected another demand that he attend the talks. Secessionist leader Francis Ona said in a letter to Mr. Namaliu this week that he would attend the talks only if Mr. Namaliu did as well. Mr. Ona had also sought a rescheduling of the talks to start next Wednesday instead of Monday as this would allow time for a Bougainville delegation attending United Nations' talks in Switzerland to return. Mr. Namaliu said he agree with this plan.

END OF
FICHE
DATE FILMED

30 Aug. 1991

"Whatever political resolution Thailand has arrived at. Whether there's democracy or whether there's not democracy, Thailand will still exist and Europe will have to have a relationship with Thailand," he said.

But regaining democracy will benefit Thailand best. Richmond noted that in 1992 Western Europe will become one large single market and "it's important that Europe and Thailand collaborate."

Draft Constitution May Need More Consideration

BK2308015391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Aug 91 p 1

[Text] The draft constitution may have to be withdrawn for further consideration based on the pubic perception of its provisions as undemocratic, according to National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong.

Gen Sunthon, who is due to retire next month from his post as Supreme Commander, said yesterday the draft charter due to be debated in the National Legislative Assembly [NLA] on Monday had been criticised for not being democratic and for giving too much power to the Constitution Committee.

But he stressed that his comments were a personal opinion and had nothing to do with the rest of the NPKC.

Gen Sunthon led the February 23 coup which deposed the Chatchai Chunhawan government, but in recent months has stayed in the background on matters of national interest.

His comments yesterday were his first in which he had taken a different view from his "brothers till death"—a term he used to describe Gen Suchinda Khraprayun and the rest of the junta members on the day of the coup.

Gen Sunthon said a review may delay developments, but this was unavoidable if the draft was inappropriate.

He said it would not delay the general election which the NPKC is trying to hold as soon as possible.

"We will try to keep our promise to the people," he said, adding the elections should be held some time next February.

Gen Sunthon later yeserday afternoon chaired a meeting of the NPKC where Deputy Prime Minister Michai Ruchuphan, chairman of the charter drafting committee, explained the draft charter.

Gen Sunthon was apparently unaware of the schedule, saying the charter was not on the meeting agenda yesterday.

Mr Michai said a review of the draft could be undertaken if the NLA sent it back to his drafting committee, but this would only cause delays and would be of no benefit.

Instead, he said the NLA should appint a new committee to scrutinise the draft and review it during the second reading.

Mr Michai said the NPKC could only make "proposals" on the draft.

He declined to say whether a review would delay the general election.

"Let's not speculate," he said. "There are a lot of ways to correct this. A scrutiny committee could make changes much easier."

NPKC vice chairman ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin said he was not sure what Gen Sunthon had said, but the draft had already been submitted to the NLA and it would proceed according to procedures.

ACM Kaset said the junta was unlikely to consider the different points in the draft as it was already in the hands of the assembly and it must be allowed to deal with it freely.

He said it was up to the individual NLA members to decide whether amendments should be introduced on any points.

He dismissed criticisms that the draft was dictatorial in nature and was intended to preserve the power and influence of the NPKC beyond the general election.

ACM Kaset said he personally had no reservations about the charter, but admitted he had not yet read it in detail.

His staff are summarising the draft for him, he said.

Drafting comimttee spokesman Dr Witsanu Khruangam agreed any amendments to the charter should be made at the scrutiny stage by a committee of about 35 people.

"Many sides want to make changes and even the Government wants to amend some points," Dr Witsanu said.

NLA member Phinit Chantharasurin, a former Solidarity MP who has joined the military-backed Samakkhi Tham Party, said there were many clauses in the charer which must be considered point by point rather than simply dismissing the entire thig as bad.

He said a review now would disappoint the people by delaying the elections needed for them to appoint MPs to represent them in Parliament.

Mr Phinit said he did not think any of the NLA members would support calls for a review since it would delay the elections.